

In their own words, candidates for supervisor talk about AIDS, medicinal marijuana, and condoms.

page 21-24

Depression = Death
UCSF docs link chronic depression with higher mortality for PWAs.

page 29



Romeo, O Romeo
von Buchau sizes up this year's model.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 44 • 31 October 1996

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

TRICK OR TREAT?

It's
scary
out
there.



Photo by Phil Nigglia see a 2 image manipulation by Adrian Roberts

Vote for more than the prez!

Clip-out our election endorsements guide on page 10.

The Bay Area Reporter, with many misgivings, endorses Bill Clinton for president this year, but only because we don't see any alternative. The Republican candidate is a poison pen-holder for the Christian Coalition; the Libertarian Party candidate would cut AIDS funding; the Green Party candidate is a joke who has

made no evident attempt to start running; and the Reform Party candidate is a joke who can't seem to stop running. The candidate we like best, Steve Michael of the AIDS Cure Party, isn't on the ballot in California. We endorse Clinton by default, even though we feel that voting for him is degrading, much like being forced to buy a flowery

page 10 ►

A very Civic Halloween

by Tom Bacchus

Halloween has moved downhill.

It's a good thing.

Despite the best efforts of all creative resources that have produced Halloween events in the Castro for years, the Halloween party has been booted from our homes and shops, because some people from Walnut Creek and Vacaville — you know who you are — just don't know how to behave. (Do they let people drink on those trains?)

But anyway, between all the clubs and parties and fabulosity

Check out the Civic Center Halloween site map, page 18.

page 18 ►



HARVEY MILK

Lesbian / Gay / Bisexual Democratic Club

Endorse These Thoughtful, Progressive, Independent Candidates and Causes



State Assembly
▲ Carole Midgen



Municipal Court Judge
▲ Kay Tsenin



BART Board
▲ Tom Radulovich



Board of Education
▲ Juanita Owens



Community College Board
▲ John Lira



Community College Board
▲ Fernando Tafoya



Board of Supervisors
Sue Bierman



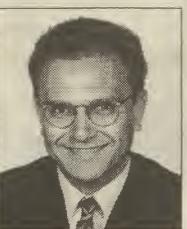
Board of Supervisors
▲ Leslie Katz



Board of Supervisors
Jose Medina



Board of Supervisors
▲ Margo St. James



Board of Supervisors
▲ Victor Marquez



Board of Supervisors
Leland Yee

TAKE THIS TO THE POLLS

Tuesday
November 5, 1996

PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENT
Bill Clinton / Al Gore

UNITED STATES CONGRESS
Nancy Pelosi / Tom Lantos

STATE SENATE
John Burton

STATE ASSEMBLY 13TH DISTRICT
Carole Midgen

STATE ASSEMBLY 12TH DISTRICT
Kevin Shelley

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE
▲ Kay Tsenin

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
▲ Leslie Katz
▲ Victor Marquez
▲ Margo St. James
Sue Bierman
Jose Medina
Leland Yee

BART BOARD 9TH DISTRICT
▲ Tom Radulovich

BOARD OF EDUCATION
▲ Juanita Owens
Steve Phillips
Mauricio Vela
Jason Wong

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD
▲ John Lira
Fernando Tafoya
Natalie Berg
Rodel Rodis

STATE PROPOSITIONS
204 Yes
Improved Water Programs
205 No
No More Money for Jails
206
No Position
207 Yes
Attorney Contingency Fees

STATE PROPOSITIONS CONT.
208 Yes
Real Campaign Finance Reform

209 NO
Save Affirmative Action
210 Yes
Raise Minimum Wage
211 YES
Protect Consumers' Legal Rights
212 No
Fake Campaign Reform
213 No
Limits Consumer Rights
214 Yes
Health Care Reform
215 YES
Medical Marijuana
216 YES
Protect Public Health
217 YES
Stop the Tax Cut for the Super Rich
218 No
Republican Cuts in City Services

LOCAL PROPOSITIONS
A YES
Affordable Housing Bonds

B NO
No DeYoung Garage/Tunnel in
Golden Gate Park
C Yes
Retired Employee Benefits
D YES
Equity for Firefighters
E YES
Protect our Retirement System
F Yes
Pay Equity for Board of Supervisors
G Yes
District Elections
H YES
Preference Voting
I
No position
J NO
Stop the Taxi fare Increase

The Truth About Alice

Stop Corruption in Our Own Back Yard!

An open letter to the lesbian and gay community of San Francisco

"I am angry about the bringing of Machine Politics into our city. Political machines do not serve the people -- they reward the people who serve them. Machines operate on oil and grease; they're dirty, dehumanizing, and too often unresponsive to any needs but those of the operators. I am angry about the attempt to take the right of self-determination away from the people and put it into the hands of a few politicians. I think that the people do not want the politicians to determine who the politicians shall be. I think that is why so many people have turned away from the electoral process.... It is therefore my intention to challenge the machine."

Harvey Milk, May 12, 1976

There was a time when our gay and lesbian Democratic Clubs provided a fair and intelligent guide for gay and lesbian voters.

For most of us it was obvious to vote for well qualified gay and lesbian candidates like Harvey Milk. But the lesbian and gay club endorsements were helpful when it came to the lesbian/gay angle on other candidates and issues less familiar to us, but which affected us as a community. We could depend on the clubs to guide us on the candidates and issues of importance to us all. Those days are gone.

Today there is a different picture, a tragic picture. The politics of personal gain and profit have eclipsed a once uncontaminated form of community education and mobilization. Today, a handful of lesbian and gay political "operators" are using the powerful lesbian and gay community voting block to cut deals for themselves among the straight politically-elite power brokers. Nowhere has the community-education process been more corrupted than by the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club. Nowhere has the endorsement process been more tainted than with the Alice B. Toklas Club "slate".

The Alice club endorsement is now a well-reputed part of the San Francisco political power machine: The simple truth is that candidates (even gay and lesbian) and measures endorsed by Alice are pre-determined on the basis of whether they're part of the mainstream machine. Other "chosen" candidates and measures buy their way onto the slate regardless of merit or commitment to the gay and lesbian community. The producers of the bus-shelter, billboard, and election-day slate-card scheme make huge profits. Alice B. Toklas, herself, would not stand for this and neither should we.

Check out some of the sources of money for the Alice slate program (information obtained from the SF Ethics Commission, a newly formed watch-dog agency): Yellow Cab • SF Taxi Association • Hambrecht and Quist (commercial real estate developers) • Solem and Associates (downtown-interest lobbyists) • McKenzie, Rose & Halliday Developers (major development firm) • Norcal Waste (the garbage monopoly) • Residential Builders of SF (development interests) • HMS Associates (downtown interest lobbyists) • Pacific Bell • The SF Stock Exchange • The Shorenstein Company (SF's #1 business landlord) • SF Police Officers Association • Viacom Cable • Teamsters Union • Seagrams Liquors.

No matter how you feel about the politics of these contributors, the question is obvious: what do the broader interests of the lesbian and gay community have to do with the likes of these money givers? The answer: the very few political aspirants running Alice sell the club's endorsement to these non-gay special interests. They sell the presumed trust of tens of thousands of lesbian and gay voters who rely on the integrity of the club's seal of approval. The "Alice Slate", therefore, no longer stands for advancing the lesbian and gay equal rights movement through the political process, nor is it a thoughtful, unbiased endorsement of issues relevant to our community.

Our community is diverse and our personal interests vary. But we do share common ground and common broad values: equal rights, economic justice, fair treatment and opportunity, and integrity and honor in our community's political process. We have come so far since Harvey Milk led the way, and we have done so by guarding the integrity of those things about which we are united.

It's time to stop this fraud.

Our community's voters must not be duped by the "Alice endorsement" -- it no longer reflects our community's needs and priorities. Today, we have false leaders among us and we must be vigilant. We must nullify the assumed effect of the "Alice endorsement" and be wary of others who seek to speak on our behalf -- they must first demonstrate a commitment to the community. We must demand honesty and not be confused and intimidated by the politics of division and deceit.

We cannot let our community's voting power be co-opted by self serving special interests from within or outside of our community. Fairness and honor in the lesbian and gay equal rights movement starts with each one of us -- live by it, insist upon it from the clubs, from our leaders, from our friends, and, most importantly, from ourselves.

How do you know how to vote? It is difficult. But if you want to vote wisely don't rely on the straight Democratic slate cards and don't rely on the Alice "gay and lesbian" slate card unless you want to endorse the co-opting of our hard earned voting power and elite machine politics. Read the Voter Pamphlet sent to you by the Registrar of Voters. Look at the candidates' credentials. Ask if their career reflects service to our community. Learn about the facts of their record and positions by talking to knowledgeable and trusted friends. Try to tell the difference between those who are committed to our cause and those just exploiting our community -- some are obvious and some are not so obvious.

But don't rely on Alice, don't rely on the straight Democratic slate cards, and don't rely on politicians' political endorsements -- gay/lesbian or straight. Rely on yourself -- do the work.

Respectfully,
Ann Grace McCoy, One Voice for Honor and Integrity in Lesbian and Gay Politics

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Supes approve landmark domestic partners bill

City contracted firms must provide benefits

by Cynthia Laird

Landmark domestic partners legislation was unanimously approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Monday, October 28, to prohibit the city from entering into contracts with businesses that discriminate in providing benefits between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners.

Supervisors Tom Ammiano

and Leslie Katz said their legislation once again puts the city at the forefront of the domestic partners issue. The legislation, if signed by Mayor Willie Brown as expected, would amend the city's administrative code and has the potential to affect thousands of private companies seeking to do business with the San Francisco.

Those businesses would be required to provide benefits, such as health insurance, to the domestic partners of their employees if they provide them to spouses of employees, in order to be eligible for a city or county contract. Additionally, other benefits such as bereavement leave and family medical leave would have to be offered to employees in relation to their domestic partners if such benefits are offered in relation to other employees' spouses.

At Monday's meeting, Ammiano said the issue boils down to equality.

"We're working toward even more equality in this domain in the future," Ammiano said. "Once again, San Francisco leads the country on issues of importance for the lesbian and gay community."

Katz added, "This bill is cutting-edge legislation. It is the first time a major city has taken action to ensure domestic partner benefits are provided by the private sector."

Ammiano noted there are conditions to the legislation. If the party's actual cost of providing a certain benefit for the domestic partner of an employee exceeds that of providing it for the spouse of an employee, or the party's actual cost of providing a certain benefit for the spouse of an em-

ployee exceeds that of providing it for the domestic partner of an employee, the party may condition providing the benefit upon the employee agreeing to pay the excess cost.

If the party is unable to provide a certain benefit to the employee, despite taking reasonable measures to do so, the party shall be deemed not to discriminate if it provides the employee with a cash equivalent.

Additionally, the ordinance defines "domestic partner" as any person who has registered a domestic partnership with a governmental body under state or local law authorizing the registration.

The same, not more

Katz also pointed out the legislation, which was introduced by Ammiano in May, originated from members of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, who helped draft it and lobbied for board support.

"We are elated that our legislation was passed unanimously," said Jeff Sheehy, club president. "We are excited that the Milk Club is actively working with our elected leaders to continue the fight for full equality."

Geoff Kors, an aide to Katz, said the supervisor's office has received about 20 calls on the matter since Monday. Calls have been from both constituents thanking the supervisors and from businesses wanting to find out what they need to do.

"I explain to businesses that it's no different from providing benefits to a spouse of a heterosexual employee," Kors told the B.A.R. "It's not providing more, it's providing the same." ▼

Get Ready for Tomorrow!

Elect
John Lira

College Board

From all over San Francisco, John Lira has been endorsed by

Assemblywoman Carole Migden
State Senator Milton Marks
Lawrence Wong, President - SF Community College Board
San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan
Supervisor Susan Leal
Supervisor Angela Alioto
BART Board Member Willie Kennedy
Former District Attorney Arlo Smith
Former SF Supervisor Jim Gonzales
Former Community College Trustee Ernest "Chuck" Ayala
Former Community College Trustee Timothy R. Wolfred
Former School Board Member Libby Denbeim
Jose Medina - Police Commissioner
Victor Marquez, Attorney at Law
Margaret Cruz - Founder, Cruz Latina Breast Cancer Foundation*
Alan T. Huie, San Francisco Film & Video Arts Commission*
Sylvia Courtney, Attorney at Law
Sonia Melara - Exec. Dir. Commission on the Status of Women *
Claudine Cheng, SF Democratic Central Committee*
Teri Adams, J.D. - Disability Rights Activist
Tom Nolan, Former San Mateo County Supervisor

*Organizations listed for the purpose of identification only

From all over San Francisco, organizations have endorsed John Lira

San Francisco Police Officers Association

SEIU Local 790

SEIU Local 535-Social Workers

Sunset Democratic Club

The Latino Democratic Club

San Francisco Black Leadership Forum

Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Non-Partisan Alliance

Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club

Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club

Latino Education Association

Asian/Pacific Democratic Club

San Francisco Democratic Women's Forum

(a partial list)

Paid for Lira for College Board, 343 Monterey Blvd., San Francisco, CA

FPPC # 96-0870

San Francisco Tenants Network

FDR Disability Democratic Club

Gay Asian Pacific Alliance

Barbara Jordan Democratic Club

Potrero Hill Democratic Club

The SF League of Conservation Voters

Mexican American Political Assoc.

SF ARTS Democratic Club

Chinese American Citizens Alliance

San Francisco Young Democrats

Robert F. Kennedy Democratic Club

Willie L. Brown, Jr. Democratic Club

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Late addition



Community College Board candidate Fernando Tafoya slaps his mug on the Alice B. Toklas bus shelter endorsement ad at 18th and Castro Oct. 28. Tafoya was angered over his being left off the club's official slate card after Alice had endorsed him and promised to post the correction on all the group's ads around town.

Bankrupt, but able to lend \$30K?

New Rothschild financial questions surface

by Dennis Conkin

Two and a half years after he discharged a controversial \$60,000 bankruptcy for 15 cents on the dollar, including \$23,000 in student loans, Municipal Court judicial candidate Matthew Rothschild was able to lend his own campaign nearly \$30,000, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

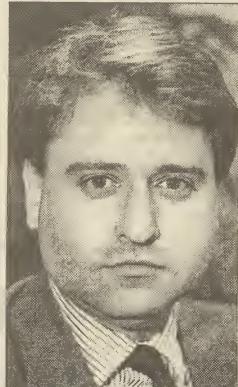
Rothschild's loans to his candidacy are documented in California Form 490, a campaign disclosure statement filed with the San Francisco Registrar of Voters.

Rothschild made one loan to his campaign of \$16,000 according to the October report, but had cumulatively lent the campaign \$25,000 by the date he filed the report on October 24.

A few days later, Rothschild reported additional loans he made to his campaign of \$4,500, for a total of \$29,500, according to a review of public campaign documents.

The Rothschild campaign must repay the bulk of the candidate's "loan" when it is due in June 1997.

"I don't know why he didn't use that money to pay back the federal government for his student loans," said Jeff Sheehy, president of the Harvey Milk Les-



Under fire: Matthew Rothschild.

with AIDS."

Shortly after the *Bay Area Reporter* asked Barnes what \$23,000 in student loans had to do with a gay man dying of AIDS, the campaign adopted "a policy" of not responding to *B.A.R.* inquiries.

The bankruptcy was discharged in 1994, but Rothschild's claim that he allegedly ran up the credit card debt caring for James Dionisio, a Los Angeles attorney who died of AIDS in 1990, has drawn criticism from many quarters.

Criticism from PWA

"Is he trying to get a sympathy vote from the claim? I'm not moved by this," said AIDS activist Gary Johnson. "As a person with AIDS, I find that very distasteful from a person who wants to be a judge."

"When my second lover died of AIDS, those debts were paid."

Although Rothschild claimed on one credit card application to be earning a salary of \$65,000 in 1989, by the time he filed the 1990 bankruptcy, he swore under penalty of perjury that his salary was \$48,000 at LaFollette, Johnson, De Hass, Fesler and Ames.

Rothschild is currently on leave from his job as deputy city attorney, where he has worked for the last year and a half. His salary is well over \$50,000 a year. ▀

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East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club

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Bill Clinton/Al Gore

U.S. Representative, District 9

Ron Dellums

U.S. Representative, District 10

Ellen Tauscher

State Senator, District 7

Jeff Smith

State Senator, District 9

Barbara Lee

Assemblymember, District 11

Tom Torlakson

Assemblymember, District 14

Dion Aroner

Peralta College, Area 4

Tom Brougham

Peralta College, Area 6

Susan Duncan

BART, District 3

Roy Nakadegawa

BART, District 7

Willie Kennedy

AC Transit, At-large

John Woodbury

AC Transit, Ward 1

Miriam Hawley

East Bay MUD, Ward 5

Danny Wan

Berkeley

Councilmember, District 2

Margaret Breland

Councilmember, District 3

Maudelle Shirek

Councilmember, District 5

Diane Woolley-Bauer

Councilmember, District 6

Betty Olds

Councilmember, Dist. 7

Kriss Worthington

School Director

Joaquin Rivera

Yes on S, T, U, V, W

Oakland

Councilmember, At-large

Rena Rickles

Councilmember, District 1

Jane Brunner

Councilmember, District 7

Larry Reid

School Director, District 7

Diane Raulston

Yes on B, I; No on F, G

Yes on 208, 215, 217

No on 209, 212, 218

Yes on A, JJ, KK

Partial list. For a complete list of endorsements or more information, call (510) 704-5553.

Poignant pink

The premier installation of DIFFA Pink Umbrellas: An Absolut Remembrance took place at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park Oct. 26-27. Two hundred and fifty pink umbrellas, a tribute to those claimed by AIDS, now dot the grove, and visitors are invited to write a thought or memory on a pink ribbon and tie it to an umbrella. Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA) funds AIDS assistance and education organizations nationwide and has granted over \$20 million since 1984. On Saturday, Nov. 2, Dignity will hold a memorial service at the grove. Call 282-4476 for more details.



Jane Philomena Delaney

'Morally not guilty' pleas entered in CBC raid case

by Cynthia Laird

Five of the defendants in the Cannabis Buyers Club raid case entered pleas of "morally not guilty" to felony charges stemming from the bust in Alameda County Superior Court on Tuesday, October 29. Judge Larry J. Goodman put off hearings for two motions filed by attorneys on both sides.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Ronald A. Bass, who is prosecuting the case, filed a motion for a gag order that would limit comments by those involved in the case. State attorneys maintained there has been "extensive" news coverage that could sway prospective jurors.

Goodman scheduled a hearing on that motion for Thursday, November 7, two days after the election where voters will decide on Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative.

Club founder Dennis Peron, Peter Veilleux, John Hudson, Elizabeth Moore, and Adam Perry entered their pleas before Goodman. The sixth defendant, Antonio Martinez, simply pleaded "not guilty" to the charges. All were previously released on their own recognizance by Goodman and remain free pending trial.

The six defendants are charged with possession of marijuana for sale, sale or transportation of marijuana, and conspiracy.

The charges are the result of the August 4 raid of the club by state Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE) agents. Peron and the others have maintained they sold marijuana to about 12,000 club members who live with life-threatening illnesses.

Attorney Randolph Daar, who represents Moore, also filed a motion for a change of venue. Defense attorneys want the case moved from Oakland to San Francisco. In the motion, they say the defendants will not be able to receive a fair and impartial trial in Alameda County "as a result of the political factors ... that have already tainted these criminal proceedings and will likely con-

tinue to do so."

Goodman scheduled the motion hearings separately and said he wouldn't hear either of them until everybody had an opportunity to review them. He then lost patience with Peron's attorney, J. David Nick, after he said the defense "vehemently opposed" the gag order motion.

"I ask that the court keep in mind the delicate constitutional issue," Nick told the court, adding that any attempt to silence the defendants with an election going on raises serious issues.

An irritated Goodman replied, "Excuse me, this is not San Francisco. This is not grandstanding, you'll not politicize this case. I handle 300 to 400 cases per week; this case is not the only one pending in Alameda County. The motion [hearings] will fit the calendar."

The change of venue hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, December 17.

Undercover cops: smokin'!

Peron and the others have accused Attorney General Dan Lungren of political motivation in the raid on the club, and the subsequent indictment issued by an Alameda County grand jury October 8. Lungren says the bust followed a two-year undercover investigation and has nothing to do with next week's election.

The conspiracy count of the indictment lists 48 overt acts allegedly committed by the defendants. These date from November 30, 1994, when the CBC was located at 194 Church Street in San Francisco, to August 7, 1996, three days after the raid. Peron was arrested on October 11, and the five other defendants surrendered themselves to the court on October 15.

The items in the indictment show that several undercover San Francisco police officers were allegedly signed up as CBC members and then allowed to purchase marijuana. According to the indictment, the officers provided bogus notes from fake doctors stating the officers suffered from

a variety of ailments such as "acute low back pain," and "acute colitis and insomnia."

In addition to undercover city police, BNE and federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents also posed as sick people needing marijuana, the indictment states.

Some of the dates listed in the indictment were from July 5-10, 1996 when authorities apparently observed defendants at the now-closed CBC at 1444 Market Street. It was around that time that CBC members noticed video equipment in a fourth floor window of a semi-abandoned building across the street. They were met by an armed man when they went to investigate. ▼

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Harold Hoogasian
Manuel "Manny" Rosales**

Board of Education

**Meagan Levitan
David Martz
Adam Sparks
Jill Wynns**

Community College Board
Robert Varni

**Congress - District 12
Storm Jenkins**

Propositions

State: 209 California Civil Rights Initiative Yes
It's okay to vote for fundamental fairness!
215 Legalize Medicinal Use of Marijuana Yes
Sorry Dan, you're wrong on this one!

San Francisco: B De Young Museum Bonds Yes
Save a San Francisco Cultural Treasure!
E Change Civil Service Rules No
Sorry Willie, no political power grab!
J Sell-off of Taxi Permits No
An expensive, unfair proposition for cab drivers!

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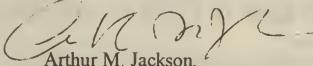
Over the past month I've visited every neighborhood in San Francisco, talking with voters. I strike a chord with people when we discuss jobs and paychecks, maintaining healthcare services, and addressing the problems of our young people.

As President of the SF Health Commission for three years, I worked hard to maintain neighborhood clinics, AIDS funding, needle exchange, women's health treatment, and substance abuse/mental health treatment in the face of stringent budgetary cuts. I know how to protect your needs while staying within our means.

You must vote as you believe, not as the pollsters dictate. This election is your choice. Take the opportunity to elect a new voice, an Independent Voice.

VOTE ARTHUR M. JACKSON SUPERVISOR '96

Respectfully yours,


Arthur M. Jackson,
Supervisor, '96

Paid for by Jackson for Supervisor Tony An, Treasurer ID#950497

Second Class?



A female firefighter who was burned and blinded in a recent Diamond Heights garage fire may receive only 48% disability compensation, even though she is 90% disabled. That's because she, like the vast majority of women and minority firefighters, is a so-called "second tier" firefighter, hired after 1976.

"Second tier" firefighters receive less than their peers in San Francisco and less than firefighters in every other California city. Prop D gets rid of the "second tier" discrimination and ensures that all San Francisco firefighters are treated the same – regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or date of hire.

Prop D is endorsed by Mayor Willie Brown, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Leslie Katz, the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, the SF Labor Council, the Democratic Central Committee and the Asian, Black, Hispanic and Women's Firefighter Associations.

**FIRE MAKES NO DISTINCTIONS.
NEITHER SHOULD WE.
VOTE YES ON D**

San Francisco Fire Fighters Community Fund for Prop D. Tomorow O'Brien Television 11/26/96

Alleged Castro 'paperhanger' caught

by Dennis Conkin

Police have nabbed a suspected bad check writer who worked Castro area merchants with stolen checks and made-up names, thanks to an alert merchant who caught onto his alleged crimes.

John Santner, 31, was arrested October 6 on felony arrest warrants issued on more than 30 counts, including burglary, forgery, writing bad checks, and possession of stolen property.

The charges are from at least four separate series of crimes – in February, April, July, and September 1996 – and will be joined into one case. A date for a preliminary hearing will be set when Santner appears in Department 11 of Municipal Court on November 14.

Martha Asten, one of the owners of Cliff's Variety, an historic Castro area business, told the Bay Area Reporter that a casual review of the store's bad check file this summer turned up an interesting similarity between two returned checks.

Although they were on different accounts and under different names, both checks had the same phone verification phone number written on them, Asten said.

Ultimately, the store turned up five returned checks from different accounts, all with different names but similar handwriting.

used to endorse the phony paper. At least one of the checks turned out to be stolen.

In one incident, after Santner allegedly had a check declined because of negative check information related to the account, he was recognized by a clerk. When Santner was spotted going into Rolo's a few days later, Cliff's alerted the

was the same questioned account. "He called Cross Check, the check guarantee company that insures the check, and tried to get them to call the police. They wouldn't. They asked to speak to the customer," said Asten.

The alleged thief abruptly left the store, without his dummy driver's license, and police were alerted.

A casual review of the store's bad check file this summer turned up an interesting similarity between two returned checks.

clothing merchant that he was allegedly a bad check writer, but Rolo's ignored the warning – and the check bounced.

Santner was identified after a September incident at All American Boy, when he abruptly left the store when a clerk compared his check to a merchant warning notice circulated by Cliff's and saw it

After Castro beat Officer Dennis Thomason, notified a colleague in the police fraud detail about the incident, Santner was quickly identified and arrested.

Santner allegedly used a variety of aliases, including Jeffrey C. Musio, Jaoa Da Silva, Matthew Baldwin Vansello, and G. Landon Browning. ▀

Calling all lesbians LAVA Awards seeks nominations

by Cynthia Laird

Nominations are now being accepted for the fifth annual Lesbians of Achievement, Vision, and Action (LAVA) awards that will be presented during a gala event in the spring. The awards seek to recognize lesbians who have made a difference in the community.

The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, November 13.

"Our aim is to honor those people in our community who have enhanced the image, empowerment, or understanding of lesbians," said Betsy York, founder and LAVA co-chair. "The event has been very successful in increasing the visibility of lesbians, and we look forward to another wonderful evening which raises money to benefit our community."

The LAVA Awards were founded in 1993 as a means of promoting a positive and empowering image of lesbians, both within the community, and in the larger society as a whole.

Criteria for nomination for the LAVA awards should include the following: the nominee's work must have enhanced the image, empowerment, or understanding of lesbians within and/or outside the community; the nominee must have demonstrated excellence in any of a variety of areas of achievement; the nominee must be willing to be out; the nominee must have specific, identifiable accomplishments that demonstrate leadership in her field; and the nominee must live in the nine county Bay Area region or in Modesto.

Areas of achievement include the arts, athletics, business, com-

munity service, crafts, education, government, health care, law, philanthropy, politics, sciences, spirituality, and the trades.

Grace Flannery and Sue Zee Poinsett, co-chairs of the honoree selections committee, encouraged re-submitting previous nominations. More lesbians deserving of recognition are nominated each year than can be given awards. Flannery and Poinsett noted.

The dinner and awards ceremony will be held Saturday, March 22, 1997, at the "Fund of Our Own," a unique, community-based fund that has provided more than \$153,000 in support to lesbians since it was founded in 1989 by Bay Area Career Women (BACW).

BACW is a nonprofit educational, networking, and philanthropic organization for lesbians. "Fund of Our Own" is administered by the Horizons Foundation, with money being distributed to lesbian projects in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Previous LAVA winners have included Happy/L.A. Hyder, Trinity Ordona, and Shoshana Rosenberg in 1996; Roberta Achtenberg, Maria Cora, Judy Dlugacz, Tracy Gary, Helen Vozenilek, and Doreena Wong in 1995; Ruth Mahaney, Deborah Chasnoff, and Lisbet Tellefsen in 1994; and Gwenn Craig, Adele Prandini, and Barbara Cameron in 1993.

York said the group's first keynote speaker was Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer. Other speakers have included Deborah L. Johnson-Rolon and Urvashi Vaid. ▀

For LAVA nomination forms or more information call (510) 843-8048

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Rev. Jim Mitulski, Mike Bernick, Wayne Friday

THANK YOU MIKE BERNICK FOR DOMESTIC PARTNERS

Mike Bernick authored BART's historic Domestic Partners policy. He kept his promise to our community and BART became the first transit agency and one of the first government agencies in America to officially acknowledge and respect the relationships of lesbians and gay men.

THANK YOU MIKE BERNICK FOR RESPECTING OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Because of Mike Bernick, health coverage and a wide range of other benefits are available for BART workers and their domestic partners. Mike Bernick kept his commitment to give respect, honor and dignity to our relationships.

THANK YOU MIKE BERNICK FOR STANDING UP TO OUR ENEMIES

Mike Bernick wouldn't back down to the threats and attacks when he took the lead to gain dignity for our relationships.

The bigots and homophobes told Mike Bernick they would ruin him if he took a stand validating lesbian and gay relationships. Mike Bernick stood up to the same mean, hateful rhetoric we now hear from those who oppose gay marriage.

THANK YOU MIKE BERNICK FOR FIGHTING TO GET BART INTO THE AIRPORT

Mike Bernick continues to lead the fight to take BART into the airport with completion on schedule by the year 2000. Because of Mike Bernick, San Franciscans will get what they want, a BART system which truly takes them in the San Francisco Airport.

**DIANNE FEINSTEIN SAYS
THANK YOU MIKE
BERNICK**

"I have always admired Mike Bernick's integrity as a public servant. I know our transit riders can trust him." **



**HARRY BRITT SAYS
THANK YOU
MIKE BERNICK**

"Mike Bernick has been with us in our battle for social justice. Of all the candidates, he has earned our vote."

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United States Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Congressman Tom Lantos
State Senator Milton Marks
Assemblyman John Burton
City Attorney Louise Renne
Assessor Doris Ward
Public Defender Jeff Brown
Supervisor Kevin Shelley
Supervisor Barbara Kaufman
Supervisor Mabel Teng

Supervisor Angela Alioto
Supervisor Amos Brown
Commissioner Carolotta del Portillo
Commissioner Pat Norman
Commissioner Jill Wynn
Commissioner Robert Varni
Former Supervisor Harry Britt
Former District Attorney Arlo Smith
CUAV Exec. Dir. Lester Olmstead Rose
Black Leadership Forum
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Wayne Friday
Sal Rosselli
Rev. Jim Mitulski
Paul Wotman
Dennis Collins
Allen White
Bob Basker
Tom Horn
Mark Leno
Natalie Berg, Chair, S.F. Democratic Party
Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club PAC
National Women's Political Caucus
Franklin Roosevelt Club for Persons with
Disabilities

** THANK YOU DIANNE FEINSTEIN FOR RESPECTING LESBIAN AND GAY RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR VOTE IN THE U.S. SENATE.

Paid for by "Bernick for BART" ID #880961, Stan Moy, Treasurer

Second Coming

We were distressed by the inaccuracies in Beth Elliott's "Sapphicition" column of October 10. Gayle Rubin had nothing to do with the production of our book, *The Second Coming: A Leatherdyke Reader* (Alyson Publications, 1996), although we were happy to include an article by her, a history of San Francisco's support group for S/M women, The Outcasts. Robin Sweeney should have been credited as Pat Califia's co-editor for this three-year project.

Elliott also errs when she states that "a non-MTF" (i.e., a transgendered woman who has eschewed genital surgery — Tala Brandeis's "Dyke with a Dick") "gets included where many others don't." Our publicity requesting contributions for this anthology made it clear we welcomed pieces about transsexuality. We got only two articles on this topic, one by Brandeis, and Mike Hernandez's "Boundaries." We would have been happy to include an article by a post-op transgendered woman. Sadly, none materialized.

Pat Califia
Robin Sweeney
San Francisco

[Beth Elliott responds: I must have been in total brain lock to write in Gayle Rubin as co-editor instead of Robin Sweeney. I feel mortified, and would like to apologize to both of you. In no way did I mean to slight you or Robin, who deserve high kudos for the collection ... and you may quote me on that.]

However, my comment on Tala referred to her having built the credibility to be personally welcome at events where the "dick in the drawer" rule is otherwise in force. It had nothing to do with your editorial policies, which on their face appear to have been very inclusive and positive. I am sorry for any confusion; what I was attempting to do was to give credit where due to someone with whom I was about to disagree in print. This was a way of trying to make clear I was criticizing ideas, not trashing a person.]

Kettle-full

Pat Califia's castigation (Maelstrom, Oct. 17) of the B.A.R. cartoon's unfortunate mention of "fish" is disingenuous to say the least — this from the author of fiction that depicts torture, castration, and even murder of men as praiseworthy acts for lesbians. Pat's a pot calling the kettle of fish black.

W. L. Warner
San Francisco

Renters for Yaki

You've probably recently received mail depicting Supervisor Michael Yaki as a sell-out to "conservative landlords" and urging you to help defeat him. Don't believe it.

Yaki is being attacked by squatters' rights advocates and self-proclaimed "tenants' advocates" for putting the brakes on a bad owner-move-in law. He realized it would have been disastrous for those of us who ever dreamed of owning anything in this city, much less those of us who want to move in our elderly mother or caretaker in case of HIV disease. Yaki realized that the law would hurt renters when small "mom and pop" (and "pop and pop") landlords, our friends, unwilling to live under such restrictions, keep a vacant apartment off the market, thus shrinking the supply of affordable rentals.

That's right, hundreds, if not thousands, of apartments are now not being rented out because of these kinds of restrictions, and we're all paying the price with higher rents.

Let's enforce the laws already in place, not make new ones. Don't buy the crap. Yaki did the right thing, and he deserves our support.

Jean-Paul Samaha
Co-Chair, Gay and Lesbian Housing Alliance
San Francisco

Judicial abuse

I've just finished reading Cynthia Laird's moving article about gay prison activist Brian Patrick Carmichael in the October 3 issue of the B.A.R. I felt compelled to write quickly.

I was enraged that this sort of judicial abuse is still occurring in the 1990s.

Is there an address where I may forward a note of encouragement to Brian?

Keep up the excellent quality of journalism. I look forward to each issue of my subscription to the B.A.R. for this very reason.

Michael Lutes
South Bend, IN

[Try: Brian Patrick Carmichael #C70246, Tehachapi State Prison Cell #347, California Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 1905, Tehachapi CA 93581.]

On district elections

Don't let your Politically Correct button be pushed! Prop. G, District Elections, at first seems like a no-brainer to those of us who aspire to political correctness. Please take a second or third look. It is political, yes, but has little to do with correctness. What was right then is not right now.

San Francisco in the 1970s was dominated by real estate developers who acted with little regard for the interests of the neighborhood districts and their constituents. Harvey Milk described the tone of the city then as, "the Blacks and Browns (are) fighting... the Filipinos (are) not talking to the Asians and they all hate the Gays..." Then, District Elections were politically correct. Real Estate Developers were defeated. It was a correct forum with equal opportunity for all of the cultures of the city to fairly represent themselves. District Elections, then, gave Gays and Lesbians the one voice we deserved. We earned all of the additional voices after that. Every culture has had the same opportunity to do so as well.

Because of Milk, San Francisco in the 1990s is a place where diversity is more a celebration than a fight. Because of Milk, Gays and Lesbians were inspired to take on a great deal of political responsibility and eventually became the most cohesive voting block in the City. The Gay/Lesbian political machine always was and will remain Human Rights-oriented. That's politically correct. Our Gay and Lesbian officials act in equal regard to the City and its constituents, at large. We live in the City, at large.

We are now being asked to consider giving up, voluntarily, the representation for which we have fought and died under the guise of political correctness. From what big money power brokers is the city being rescued this time?

The highest concentration of the gay/lesbian population will be divided into four separate districts, only one of which will retain an apparent gay/lesbian majority, and only if we assume Noe Valley, Bernal Heights, Diamond Heights and Glen Park to be Gay empathetic. The plan is to call that district District 8. Back then, Dan White was of District 8. That alone is not even close to being politically correct.

Kudos to Ms. Leal for being our voice. Mr. Ammiano, you least of all, need to be lectured on the times of Harvey Milk. Were you and Ms. Katz absent the day they made this plan and drew up the map?

Ernie J. Giramonti
San Francisco

Vertical sex in the mosh pits

The guardians of public health and well-meaning community leaders can use the powers of the state to police our sex acts, but will they allow us a modicum of dignity, comfort, and sociability?

I met the man I spent 16 years of my life with at the Ritch Street Baths. Back in those days, bathhouses were emporiums of pleasure, wonderfully cut-off from the outer world, where you could unwind in a sauna or Jacuzzi, watch movies (erotic and otherwise), have a sandwich, retire to a small but clean room for sex and a little cuddling afterwards, and possibly leave with a boyfriend.

When my lover died a few months ago, I found myself again prowling the various venues of the gay world. I find queer sex in the 90s much sleazier than anything we concocted 20 years ago under the influence of Qualudes and Donna Summer. In the 1970s, a "trick" was someone you actually went home with. Today a "date" can be consummated without even leaving the bar. More depressing is the realization that most gay sex in this town now occurs in the vertical position, with one's pants dangling around one's knees, in the corners of dark, cold warehouses made over into sex clubs. In these spaces, privacy (and even sitting down) is forbidden. No one goes to unwind.

All this is the product of a grand compromise hammered out in a courtroom in 1984 in the midst of a uniquely San Francisco version of AIDS hysteria — unique because it was whipped up by gay men themselves (like Randy Shilts, Larry Littlejohn, and other scared people). These standards pretty much ensured that queer men in San Francisco would never again enjoy anything like the comforts of a 1970s bathhouse. Now it is being proposed to make them permanent and stricter.

Policing cannot stop HIV transmission because it cannot give queer men a reason to live. Only we can do that for each other. The one model that seems to have any success and credibility is grassroots, peer-based, ongoing education in conjunction with condom distribution and straightforward safer sex instructions. Fund these efforts, not sex monitors. More lighting? Sure — but give us the dignity of a little privacy, too, a space to linger in, and the possibility of actually relating to each other. Improving the quality of queer sex will do far more to promote safety than consigning us to state-regulated mosh pits.

Will Roscoe
San Francisco

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Brutality as usual

As usual, the police officers harass, club, and arrest innocent people, then lie to the Police Commission about their actions. The Police Commission, as usual, ignores concrete evidence of police brutality and lets the police officers go with a slap on the wrist.

Now it's election time and our enemies want our votes. I suggest that we fight back by denying Police Commissioner Jose Medina a seat on our board of supervisors and by voting no on ballot props E and I.

Gordon Gee
San Francisco

SSI, HIV, and substance abuse

Thanks for covering the changes in Social Security law that were wrought upon people living with disabilities by the U.S. Congress. The accurate coverage by Dennis Conkin provided critical information to people disabled by substance abuse and AIDS/HIV.

People with substance abuse conditions and/or AIDS/HIV frequently have psychological issues that impact their ability to work. Social Security requires these people to have a psychological/psychiatric evaluation performed by a licensed clinician (MFCC, LCSW, Ph.D., Psychiatrist). Due to the large volume of these cases now pending, AIDS Benefits Counselors is in dire need of finding volunteers willing to help perform these evaluations. Thus, I am writing to request the help of B.A.R. readers to assist ABC in locating qualified clinicians.

If you or someone you know is a licensed clinician interested in helping out, please contact ABC at 558-9845 immediately. Thank you for your continued support! Please keep up the good work!

Paul Causey
Executive Director
AIDS Benefits Counselors

Another faux pas

Dennis Conkin's series of articles ably chronicling the numerous *faux pas* of Messrs. Matthew Rothschild and Robert Barnes prior to and in the current election season omit one important fact from their otherwise complete and informative coverage: that the campaign management services of Robert Barnes & Associates are also utilized by none other than "our own" Assemblywoman Carole Migden.

Anyone wanting to verify this information should call the Assemblywoman's office at 557-0784, which will refer you to 241-9913. The next voice you will hear will be that of the Robert Barnes & Associates receptionist.

Just two questions remain: why is the B.A.R. so shy about reporting this fact, and really, Carole, can't you do better?

G. Michael German
San Francisco

[We aren't shy. We just didn't think it was news.]

Investigate Lungren!

California Attorney General Dan Lungren is taking a victimless crime (use of medicinal marijuana) and demonizing it for political purposes. In the process, he is criminally victimizing sick and dying people. It is time for U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate Lungren for campaign violations.

It is also time for the people of our state to question whether or not Lungren is guilty of human rights violations. When Dennis Peron was arrested by Lungren's agents on October 11, he was called *faggot*. Approximately 80-85% of Cannabis Buyers Club members were gays with AIDS. The 100 Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement agents who raided the club site on August 4 wore rubber gloves (in addition to full body armor) to "subdue" seven homeless patients – each having AIDS or cancer – who were given temporary shelter there.

Those patients were harassed and subjected to homophobic remarks for several hours, though none were arrested. The attorney general has also raided the homes of seven people working for Prop. 215 and taken money and possessions from them without making arrests. The only other facility raided by Lungren was carried out against the West Hollywood cannabis club, which serves AIDS patients primarily.

Using the power of the State to affect the outcome of an election is reprehensible and a violation of the Hatch Act. Lungren is embarrassing to California, just as Governor George Wallace was embarrassing to Alabama 30 years ago. Will Lungren ever apologize to the sick and dying for his hatred and harassment of them as Wallace has apologized to African-Americans for his bigotry?

If Attorney General Lungren doesn't want advice from his contemporaries, perhaps he should take advice from Winston Churchill, who said, "There is no more costly folly than the folly of intolerant idealism."

Ruth Guest, RN
San Francisco

Our preference

We wish to recommend a "yes" vote this November on Proposition H/preference voting. The current voting system has given inconsistent electoral success to the lesbian and gay community. In 1994, gay candidates didn't win any seats, and Cleve Jones lost with over 100,000 votes. In 1994, 3 out of 5 seats were won by gay candidates, but two of these were incumbents, one previously appointed by the mayor. In the last 15 years, only three gay and lesbian candidates have won without being appointed by the mayor first. That is a poor track record.

Proposition H will help the lesbian and gay community. Preference voting combines the best features of district elections with the best features of at-large elections. Like district elections, preference voting reduces the number of votes needed to win election, from about 100,000 under the current system to 35,000 (determined by dividing the number of votes cast in the election by the number of seats available). Candidates can win with votes from one part of the City if they want, like the Castro, giving neighborhood representation. But candidates may also win with votes from communities spread throughout the City, such as gays and lesbians who don't live in the Castro, as well as tenants, seniors, ethnic and racial minorities, independent voters, labor, and many more. This flexibility opens up fair representation to the majority and minority groups without having to draw district lines.

Also, with preference voting candidates don't need to spend as much money to win, because they need significantly fewer votes to win. Candidates can run their campaigns to certain neighborhoods or spread-out communities, and they don't have to run city-wide if they don't want to. Preference voting will make Supervisors accountable to the voters who elect them, not to big campaign contributors.

Some say that preference voting is too complicated. That's just because it is new and unfamiliar. But preference voting is used by over 30 million people in other U.S. cities and other nations. If they can handle it, so can San Francisco. We will have until the year 2000 before the first election, more than enough time to fully educate voters. Proposition H will usher in a new era of fair and representative government to San Francisco. It's "state of the art" democracy. We urge you to vote yes on Proposition H.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano
 Jeff Sheehy, President, Harvey Milk
 Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club
 Jim Rivaldo, Founding member, Harvey Milk Club
 David Spero, Harvey Milk Club
 Ron Hypolite, chair, Lesbians and Gays of
 African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA)
 Gwenn Craig, chair, Elections Task Force, LGADDA
 Howard Wallace, Pride At Work,
 Health Care Workers SEIU Local 250
 Rex Spray, Pride At Work, SEIU Local 790
 Kevin Piediscalzi, co-chair,
 Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club
 Fran Kipnis, PAC chair, Alice B. Toklas Club
 Martha Knutzen, Democratic Central Committee
 Tony Leone, Democratic Central Committee
 Eileen Hanson, Policy Director,
 AIDS Legal Referral Panel

Penal Code clarification

[The following was sent to reporter Terry Beswick:]
 (Re: "Prop 215 debated," 10/17 issue:) You're a wordsmith, and correct words and phrases are the essence pin for all lawful social functioning. Why do you sustain and perpetuate the California Penal Code-inspired popular delusion that lay people (individuals) are subject to prosecution for Health and Safety Code violations?

You allowed Dave Fratello to express his ignorance, but why didn't you set your readers straight? "But for now the shortest term step is to address California criminal law."

Since when has California had a "criminal law"? Penal Code sections 26 and 27, which address crime, have nothing to do with prosecutorial powers provided for in the Penal Code. Nothing says they do. They are a distraction. They have confusion factor "value." The prosecutorial power is only for public offenses (PC 948 and 950). There is no corresponding PC 26 to define persons capable of committing public offenses (that's how popular delusions are created and sustained). "Public offense" is known by correct words and phrases, in strict disregard for cant, at PC 7 (16) which is usual doctrinal meaning.

Only a State employee can be lawfully liable to a State-instituted pot possession or sales charges. Why is it you do not remind us of the distinction? We need reminding. Any user who won't remind a "court" and prosecutor of this basic fact is a prime witness that use of weed is mentally debilitating. Such users implicitly give evidence that using weed has interfered with their ability to think.

Julian Swig
Oakland, CA

[Thanks. Nice hair.]

Desperation is never pretty

by Wayne Friday

As November 5 looms ever larger on the horizon, incumbent President Bill Clinton appears headed for an easy win, possibly one of landslide proportions. On the other hand, Republican challenger Bob Dole, lagging even in states that should be in his pocket, has become so frantic and bitter that he's taking out his frustrations not only on the Democrats, but also on the press, his own party operatives and, yes, even the voters.

Appearing in Texas and Michigan and other states (including California) last week, Dole lashed out, bellowing at his audiences, "Where is the outrage? When will these voters start to focus?" And on another occasion, "I wonder what these people, the voters, are thinking about, if they are even thinking at all." Not exactly a smart way to woo those listening, especially those still "undecided" voters, Bob. No one likes hearing such open contempt directed at them, even if perhaps deserved.

After clearly expressing his annoyance at what he regards as an apathetic electorate, the former Kansas senator then blasted the "liberal" press, accusing the media of giving the Clinton campaign "a free transfusion every day." He ranted on, explaining that if the press "wasn't propping up Clinton ... we would have won this election two weeks ago." In your dreams, Mr. Dole.

A quick Texas campaign trip over the past weekend shows just how deeply in the hole the Dole-Jack Kemp ticket is. Texas is practically a given for any Republican candidate these days. Indeed, Texas GOP Governor George Bush Jr. was overheard saying that if "Dole has to campaign in Texas in October, it is a true sign that he's in big trouble."

In fact, the Dole campaign is so desperate that Dole himself dispatched two of his top aides to Texas on a humiliating mission to convince billionaire Reform Party candidate Ross Perot to drop out of the race and throw his support (all six percent of it) to Dole. The scheme backfired – first by making Dole look at loose ends for even coming up with the idea, and after the news leaked, by giving Ross Perot the attention he couldn't get otherwise. The result was that Perot managed to at least temporarily gain a couple of percentage points by poking fun at Dole's "weird" last-minute groveling.

This presidential campaign is almost at an end, and none too soon for most of us. Bill Clinton will see us into the next century, though on what kind of bridge remains to be seen. Bob Dole goes back to Russell, Kansas, to sit and ponder – and no doubt grumble – on the front porch (or maybe he'll do all that plus write a book at that swank condo in Florida).

Dole's last-minute decision to spend big bucks on advertising here by embracing the two hot-button issues of affirmative action and immigration is an effort not so much to actually win the state's



Our Man Friday

54 electoral votes but to help out several incumbent GOP congressmembers thought to be in trouble. For months, California GOP leaders, particularly those more conservative ones, have been urging Dole to publicly embrace Prop. 209, the so-called California Civil Rights Initiative, which bars affirmative action and has always been more popular in the state than Dole himself. Dole's move, however, appears to be too little, too late to save a couple of those first-termers in deep doo-doo. (Incidentally, although you and I might not like it much, look for Prop. 209 to win easily next week.)

Whether the projected Clinton win translates into the Democrats taking back Congress is another matter, however. I doubt it. No matter which way it slices up, though, the margins will be razor thin, and no party will be able to accomplish much without some cooperation from the other. I make no secret that I'm hoping for the best-case scenario: Clinton's tough Teflon coattails return both houses to the Democratic column, forcing Newt Gingrich to lob bricks once more from the back benches, where he belongs.

Unfortunately, whether the GOP retains or loses control of the House Tuesday, don't hold your breath waiting for Gingrich to leave D.C.; the latest poll in his Atlanta area district race has the Newtster leading his Demo opponent by 14 points.

One final comment: there should have been a two-hour, no-holds-barred debate between Hillary Rodham Clinton and Elizabeth "I told you not to call me Liddy" Dole, one that didn't center around Liddy's pecan roll recipe or Hillary's much-vaunted chocolate chip cookies. Now that tangle between two terribly bright and articulate women would have garnered

some ratings!

To local politics

Most certainly, I'm voting Tuesday, and I trust you will as well. Because some of my readers continue to ask, here are my recommendations (albeit somewhat reluctantly in a couple of cases):

- President, Bill Clinton;
- U.S. Congress (8th District), Nancy Pelosi;
- State Senate (3rd District), John Burton;
- State Assembly (12th District), Kevin Shelley;
- State Assembly (13th District), Carole Migden;
- Board of Supervisors (choose six): Leslie Katz, Barbara Kaufman, Carolene Marks, Sue Bierman, Andrew Clark and Margo St. James (Victor Marquez and Yoland Yee are also good choices);
- Municipal Court, Kay Tsemin;
- BART Board, Michael Bernick;
- Board of Education, Juanita Owens, Steve Phillips, Mary Hernandez, and Jason Wong; and
- Community College Board, John Lira, Natalie Berg, and Lauri Irving.

San Francisco County Propositions: Yes on A, B, C, D, and F. No on G and H.

State Propositions: Yes on 204, 205, 206, 210, 214, 215 and 217. No on 208, 209, 211, and 218.

By the way, did you notice that openly lesbian Supervisor Leslie Katz and gay candidate Victor Marquez picked up endorsements from the *Chronicle*?

Also, did you notice the shades of elections past in the Saturday *Chronicle*? On the front page: "Absentee Ballots Sent Twice to Some SF Voters." I've said it before (several times in fact), and I'll say it again, that gang over at the Registrar's Office is as incompetent as they come. Can't they do anything right?

Still, even if they can't get their house in order, you can: Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. Vote as you please, but please get out there and vote. ▼



Riding high: Bill Clinton (shown here with Richard Burns) probably won't have to fill out a change of address form after Nov. 5.



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Blind-sided by the light

by Beth Elliott

Once, Twice, Three Times a Topic Dept.: When I finished writing last week's column, I realized I had more to say on the subject of lesbian community belief systems and those "moments of great uncertainty about ideas set forth by lesbian intellectuals." I might have let things rest there but for other examples cropping up.

One caught my attention during the Sisyphean paperwork process (in the endless task sense, not the nelly sense, of course): an old review of an anthology in which I appeared. The reviewer was, in general, favorably disposed but questioned a line I'd written about "the occasional excesses" of lesbian community dogma. She wasn't happy that I'd written "occasional" for what she'd seen as regular excessive browbeating. Yes, indeed, I thought — she's absolutely right; I must have been pulling my punches for a particular effect.



PC revisionism? SFO's *Lohengrin* with Ben Heppner as the title character and Karita Mattila as Elsa von Brabant.

Then I recalled the effect was pleasing an editor who didn't want me to come off as ripping someone a new one — and I'd already bent over backwards to show I was suggesting enhancements on existing ideas, etc., not trashing anyone.

Then there was the San Francisco Opera's recent production of Wagner's *Lohengrin*, with its missing swan. To make a long story short, the swan is a character with two appearances and enough references to make his absences kind of, well, glaring. But this was a new production in which, instead of a knight of the Holy Grail coming to heroine Elsa's defense, "Elsa brings the power of the Grail to her people." Granted, her spiritual quest is a subliminal subplot and, for my money, Wagner's *Parsifal* is more about the anti-heroin Kundry than *Parsifal*. Still, this twist came off as PC revisionism.

(Best not to get me started on Wagnerian opera. I'll only end up doing Mystery Opera Theatre 3000, including this rather Bulwer-Lytton-esque — but dead-on — thumbnail synopsis of *Die Walküre*: "It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly a sword stuck in a tree rang out! A band of Valkyries appeared on the horizon. And somewhere in the distance (in a forest, near a cave full of treasure guarded by a dragon), a child was born." Not only would that go over a number of heads, it would get me slapped silly by Stephanie von Buchau. It's bad

enough I can't see her byline without thinking of Cloris Leachman and whinnying horses.)

(Still, those readers who know the plot to *Lohengrin* will understand my reaction to Ortrud's second act whining about her and her husband being disgraced for framing Elsa for murder while Elsa gets to marry the Grail knight: Yeah, Ortrud — you're a victim! You're entitled to have Elsa take you into her house and make it all better!)

Dogged skepticism

These both brought me back to Stanford Professor Susan Kreiger's new book (*The Family Silver: Essays on Relationships Among Women*). Her vision of what academia should be might be woman-oriented farsight, it might be real Woo-Woo Land stuff, it might be something in-between — I don't know. What matters is that there's been enough feminist innovation that doesn't play — and is clueless about its falling flat — that I have to wonder like this: What matters in terms of explaining my dogged skepticism of lesbian community conventional wisdom is the amount of superstition that passes for political analysis among us.

Take, for example, the story that woman-battering escalates dramatically on Super Bowl Sunday. Apparently, when traced along the line of supposed sources, that turned out to be a myth, yet it continued to be quoted

next page ►

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Noble history

by David Bianco

This week in gay history: Elaine Noble and Allan Spear are re-elected as the nation's only two openly gay state legislators November 2, 1976.

In the mid-1970s, the gay and lesbian movement reached a new phase when the first open gays and lesbians began to win election as public officials. Gays had campaigned for public positions as early as 1961, when openly gay drag entertainer Jose Sarria won 5,600 votes in his race for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Other open gays ran for office in the next 13 years, and at least one of them won — Kathy Kozachenko of the Ann Arbor, Michigan County Council.

But in late 1974, one gay man and one lesbian burst onto the political scene as openly gay legislators. In November of that year, Elaine Noble was elected a state representative in Massachusetts, and one month later Minnesota state senator Allan Spear revealed his homosexuality in a newspaper interview.

The openly lesbian Noble — a former cocktail waitress, educator, and community volunteer — ran as a Democrat for a seat in the Massachusetts House representing Boston's Fenway district. She narrowly won the primary and defeated her Republican November opponent with nearly 60 percent of the vote.

In office, Noble found herself torn between her goals as a legislator representing a mostly straight, elderly, and poor district, and the demands of the gay and lesbian community that she focus on "their" issues. In more than one occasion, she was accused of "selling out" and acting against the best interests of gays and lesbians. For example, when two dozen gay men were accused of pedophilia in Boston, she quickly

held a news conference and condemned the accused men (most of whom were never found guilty). In 1976, she flew to a fundraiser in San Francisco to raise money for the straight, pro-gay politician who was running against Harvey Milk for the California Assembly.

On the other hand, Noble did try (albeit unsuccessfully) to pass a statewide job-protection bill for gays and lesbians and certainly helped break down barriers and stereotypes among legislators in Massachusetts and nationwide. After she served two terms, the district lines were redrawn, and she found herself in the same district as her ally, then-closeted gay legislator Barney Frank. Rather than face off against Frank in a primary, Noble ran for the United States Senate in 1978, but she lost the primary to future presidential contender Paul Tsongas.

Noble left elected office with some bitterness toward the community that had both embraced and scorned her. She told the *Advocate*, "I guess more than anything I'm just exhausted and very, very tired and probably disillusioned, because I really tried the best I could and it wasn't good enough for the gay community. To be honest, I don't know what 'good enough' is."

In part inspired by Noble's November 1974 election, Spear granted a front-page interview to the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* soon after his re-election to a second term as a state senator in which he indicated that he was gay. This announcement was not met with universal acceptance. One state senator indicated during a committee meeting that he thought the state should appropriate money to help Spear get his homosexuality "cured." Nonetheless, many of Spear's fellow senators were supportive, although most expected him to lose his 1976 bid for re-election. Spear's Republican opponent in that race

spent so much time denying that homosexuality was an issue in the race that it became clear that it was. Spear won with nearly 70 percent of the vote.

In the years that followed, Spear made a name for himself fighting for strict drunk-driving laws and expanded child care services. He also pushed for a gay rights bill, which met strong opposition from religious conservatives but was ultimately passed in 1993. By that time, Spear had risen through the ranks of Minnesota's senate to become that body's president, a position he still holds in 1996.

In the two decades since Noble and Spear became openly gay elected officials, dozens of gay men and lesbians have come out in office or run as openly gay and lesbian candidates. In 1991, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund was founded to help raise money to elect openly gay and lesbian candidates — and as of 1996, the Victory Fund counts 115 openly gay or lesbian elected officials in the United States. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. His first book, "Modern Jewish History for Everyone," was recently published by History for Everyone. He can be reached care of the Bay Area Reporter or through his E-mail address: ArBianco@aol.com.



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Sapphistication

◀ previous page

ed as evidence of how precarious life in this society is for women. I'm not denying it's a jungle out there; I've had to fight off rapes and a mugging. I fail to see the point, however, of giving women the idea there's no escape by repeating and escalating urban legends that make us feel powerless — unless it's to sell a point of view. I prefer to think we've done things that have empowered women and made us stronger and safer in our world.

Unfortunately, this kind of shorthand analysis is all-too-common in our world, whether it's a women's studies teacher telling her students it's inevitable patriarchy will cramp their lives, a right-wing talk show host talking of documents on the Internet proving Hillary Clinton's plans to create a National Health and turn it over to Ross Perot (actual example), or a newsworthy telling straight women over 30 they have a greater chance of being killed by terrorists than of getting married. It's the "scientific findings" later disproved — only nobody hears because the media's gone on to the next startling revelation.

So, I'm glad African-American writers were the ones to comment on this past summer's church-burning fad. Interesting how Pres-

ident Clinton spoke of being frightened by tales of black church burnings in Arkansas when he was a child — when fact-checking found none in that time period. And fact-checking this summer found both white and black churches burned, by both white and black teenagers, white and black drunks, white and black transients. As the hideous conspiracy it was made out to be (and which I feared it was), it was highly overrated — but the hysteria set an emotional tone that has probably yet to subside, to nobody's benefit.

And it goes on from there. The thing is, once you've seen a debunked "truth" continue to skew dialogue, you can never again take any of these shorthand political summations at face value. You wonder whether people using them to rouse groups to anger are reasoning-challenged or deliberately lying to you. This happens no matter where your sympathies lie. If you believe truth sets people free and that good politics come from acting on fact and principle, you're screwed — especially if your population segment's rights have depended on political innovation and the updating (or overcoming) of tradition. It's lonely being a skeptic among true believers, a thinker and analyzer among reactors — none of whom have a clue as to how you can fail to see what they see. ▼

When will the military stop harassing gays? Don't ask.

by GLAAD

Chicago Tribune columnist Clarence Page wrote a thought-provoking October 23 commentary on the recent Supreme Court decision not to hear former Lt. Paul Thomasson's argument that the Clinton Administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy violates lesbian and gay servicemembers' free-speech rights. In the words of Page, "Rest assured that more challenges will follow. In the meantime, 'don't ask, don't tell' has been in force for two years, and as I initially supported it, although tentatively, I am disappointed by how badly it [has] worked."

After recounting the drastic increase in the number of lesbians and gay men in the military discharged for homosexual orientation or conduct since the policy was instituted, Page explains the many ways in which the loose wording of the policy leaves many servicemembers wide open for persecution. "Eventually, after much more debate, gays will be integrated into the military as they already have been integrated into most other aspects of American life," Page writes. "When will it happen? Don't ask. But I can tell something is happening. The times are a-changin', even at the Pentagon."

Please write to the *Chicago Tribune* and commend Clarence Page's reasoned and impassioned response to a total policy failure.

Contact: Howard Tyner, Editor, *Chicago Tribune*, P.O. Box 4041, Chicago, IL 60611-4041, fax: 312.222.3143, e-mail: tribletter@aol.com.

'Are newspapers too gay-friendly?'

The September 28 issue of *Editor & Publisher* magazine, a journalism trade publication to which over 22,000 media outlets subscribe, included two articles of importance and interest to the gay and lesbian community. The first, "The Process of Coming Out," was a personal and insightful profile of Berl Schwartz, a broadcast and print journalist for over 20 years. Schwartz, who spent many of those years in the journalistic closet, described his journey to self-acceptance and his current role in helping make the newsroom a safe place to be openly gay or lesbian.

The second article, "Are Newspapers Too Gay-Friendly?" was based on a panel discussion at the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association convention held recently in Miami, and addressed some of the complex issues concerning coverage of the gay and lesbian community. A major criticism leveled by some

panelists, including openly lesbian journalist Bettina Boxall of the *Los Angeles Times*, was that coverage of gay issues is "too gay.... We do too many simplistic, formulaic sappy stories.... It's time for coverage of gay issues to move to a higher level." Others, like John Gallagher of the *Advocate*, felt that papers "don't want to offend their gay and lesbian readers." Other journalists, however, remain unconvinced — as do many activists and media consumers — and realize there is a great deal of work to be done until our lives are reflected in the media in the three-dimensional manner our community deserves.

Please thank *Editor & Publisher* magazine for bringing these issues to the professionals who directly affect coverage of our community.

Contact: *Editor & Publisher*, 11 West 19th St., NY, NY 10011, fax: 212.929.1259, e-mail: edpub@mediainfo.com. WWW: www.mediainfo.com.

It's GLAAD Mad world

In the November issue of *Mad* magazine, the famous back-page fold-in features a group of protesters standing before the Congress holding a sign that says

"Stop Merger Mania" and asks the question, "What Proposed Merger is the Federal Government Moving Quickly to Block?" The answer, once the page is folded together so that A meets B, reads, "SAME SEX MARRIAGE." The folded image is of two men being married before a priest with a supportive crowd looking on. The fold-in clearly supports same-gender marriage and is a satire of how, in the face of many real issues, the Congress has created the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DoMA) to ban gay marriage.

Write to *Mad* and let them know we are honored to be positively portrayed in the fold-in of the month.

Contact: *The Usual Gang of Idiots*, *Mad* magazine, Department 351, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019, fax: 212.506.4848, e-mail: On America Online, use "Alfred E-Mail" — use keyword: MAD.

Ellen: Come out, already!

On October 22, Associate Press television writer Jennifer Bowles said that when it comes to *Ellen*, enough is enough. "Message to Ellen DeGeneres: Take a hint from *Star Trek* and boldly go where no man — or woman — has gone before," she wrote. Bowles went on to recount all of the innuendo over the past month or so, from DeGeneres claiming her character, Ellen Morgan, was really Lebanese, to her recent appearance at the Museum of Television & Radio, where she responded to speculation that the coming out was the most anticipated television moment since *Dallas*'s "Who Shot J.R.?" episode, noting how strange it was that her character's sexuality could be perceived as

more offensive to viewers than a man being shot.

Bowles also noted that "in cyberspace, most of the reaction has been favorable," and that there are already nearly two dozen openly lesbian and gay supporting characters on television. She ended by charging, "Outta there, Ms. Morgan."

The overwhelmingly positive response that *Ellen* and Disney have received for the character's possible coming out bodes well for the future. However, there are still a handful of religious radicals who have mounted an organized attempt to censor the openly lesbian character.

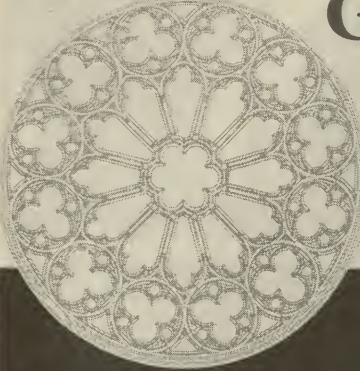
Please write to AP and thank them for this light-hearted but important editorial, and keep sending those letters of support to ABC and Disney.

Contact: Associate Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10020-1666, fax: 212.621.7520; Dean Valentine, President of Network TV and Television Animation, Walt Disney and Touchstone Television, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91521-0001, phone: 816.560.5000 or Touchstone TV's comment page on the Web at <http://www.tplex.com/>; Note; For ABC: Jamie Tarses, President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcdaudr@ccabc.com. ▼

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COMMENTARY

Wired2BGay does Town Square

by Terry Beswick

Virtual Queer" was my editor's idea for a title for a column about gay stuff on the Internet. To be honest, I wasn't too thrilled about it, at least at first.

I mean, *virtual queer*? As if! Of course, I got the "virtual reality" reference to the idea that life on the Internet is practically really almost just like real life. But I mean, I'm not *virtually queer*; I'm *totally ... well, totally gay* anyhow.

And then, while cruising the Web recently one night — ostensibly researching for this column, but actually husband-hunting — I realized that the myriad gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning websites, chat-rooms, playrooms, and bulletin boards on the Internet really are severely virtual. Not real. Often deceptive even.

In fact, due to the sheer volume of unedited, opinionated, promotional stuff on the untamed capitalist Web frontier, most of it, gay or straight, is a lot of hooey. The art is in finding the diamonds in the rough.

I brought home a big new computer and jumped on the much-hyped information superhighway a couple of months ago, and ever since, my friend Misha has become increasingly disgusted with my cyber-addiction. He says the Internet is a passing fad, like phone sex or the hula hoop (he's much older than I). He says it's all a plot to suck the queer collective soul out of the community by trapping us all in this corporate virtual world.

Truth is, he's simply technologically challenged. He discovered the art of processing words in temp school and still believes that this is what the personal computer is for.

Plus he hates it that my phone line is always tied up when he wants to gossip in-between *The Simpsons* reruns. I think the only hope for him is that the computer is successfully merged with the TV, the phone, and the refrigerator, and responds to simple voice commands.

"Computer, fix me a daiquiri."

In the meantime, I guess I'll just have to cross that bridge into the 21st century without him.

But it's true — over the last several weeks I've spent an improbably huge and possibly unhealthy number of hours exploring the Internet. And when you're feeding a voraciously addictive personality like mine, those hourly online bills can really add up!

So now we get to the real purpose of this column: to help me pay for my online time. And of course to help illuminate for my kind readers some small portion of the rapidly evolving virtually queer world in the process. :)

Fornicating under a full moon

Anyway, let's start this column with the basics. One of my "favorite places" is a chatroom on America Online (AOL) called "San Francisco M4M," which stands for San Francisco Men who want to fornicate.

A chatroom is simply an unmoderated discussion group, open to whoever decides to check

in at any time. San Francisco M4M is a "members" chatroom, which means that you have to go through a couple of layers of "public rooms" to get to it. Theoretically, this weeds out the children and the mentally deranged (it doesn't always work).

Once you hit the "People Connection" icon on the AOL main menu, you immediately land in a "Town Square Lobby" chatroom.

Click on "list rooms," then "member rooms," and then hit the keys symbol to "find room by name." Type in "San Francisco M4M." Or, just scroll through the member rooms till you find one that suits you; there's definitely something for everyone.

Especially during peak hours, the room is likely to be full (23 people), which means that you have to keep clicking the room until finally someone leaves and you are allowed in. Or go somewhere else.

Once you get in, it may appear that nothing at all is happening, but don't believe it. People are already checking you out, so it is very important to have a provocative screen name and profile, with gif (picture) at the ready. To read other people's profiles, just double-click their screen name, and you get whatever fiction they've cooked up for you.

During the recent full moon, the San Francisco M4M room was so full that I couldn't get in, so I decided to just hang out in one of the public lobbies for a while to see how the other 99% lives.

It wasn't long before a certain DEV140050 sent me an Instant Message (IM) saying, "Get out, faggot!"

Well, this rather startled me. A gay basher invading my cyber-space? Then I realized that my screen name, Wired2BGay, must've set him off. That or my provocative profile.

Mom4970 to the rescue

I knew I had a special responsibility to stamp out this ignorance immediately, and maybe to have some fun in the process. Scanning for weapons, I noticed that one of the active participants in the room was a certain "Mom4970," whom everyone, including DEV140050, was happily chatting away with about sports, school, and other such nonsense. So, I instinctively did what any other self-respecting homosexual would do...

I told.

Wired2BGay: Mooooommm, DEV140050 is sending me private IM's calling me a faggot!

Mom4970: Well, there's no need to swear.

DEV140050: What? I did not!

Wired2BGay: Yes, he did, Mom. He's a virulent homophobe.

Mom4970: Well, just ignore him then.

Wired2BGay: You know, Dev, scientists say that the worst homophobes are the ones most likely to secretly long for gay sex...

DEV140050: You faggot!!! You

AIDS queers do it with dogs... (etc.)

Wired2BGay: Mooooommm!!?

:)

Mom4970: Dev! I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to report you to AOL's virtual censor authorities.

DEV140050: Go ahead, I don't care!

Wired2BGay: They'll just banish you from AOL forever, you queer basher. Adios, loser!

Surprisingly,

Dev and I did go on to have a rather simplistic but nevertheless stimulating conversation about human sexuality, albeit in a private room. ("How come your queer?") I do love a challenge. Once out of the public eye, he actually wasn't so bad, though he never quite gave up his faggot ways.

He logged off rather abruptly when I thanked him for giving me fodder for my new column, and helping me to better appreciate its title: "Virtual Queer."

The Internet, I think, is the world's largest closet. ▼

Comments and hot tips to:
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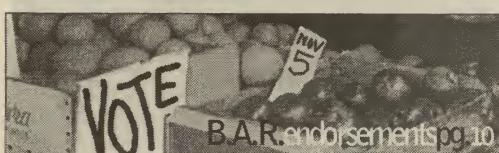
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You're wanted by the sheriff!

by Shan Schwartz

Attention, all gays and lesbians interested in a law enforcement career: the San Francisco Sheriff's Department wants you.

The department is entering its semi-annual recruitment drive, and is once again specifically targeting gay and lesbian candidates to join its ranks.

San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey pointed out to the *Bay Area Reporter* that the San Francisco Sheriff's Department has recruited gay and lesbian deputies for years, and was the first law enforcement agency in the country to do so. He said that to his knowledge, the SFPD and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department were the only other two law enforcement agencies in the country to make an effort to recruit gay and lesbian officers.

Hennessey said his department finds an excellent pool of candidates from the gay and lesbian community.

"The source of talent is rich, because virtually no one else is recruiting them," he said.

To reach the gay and lesbian community, the department this year is advertising in Bay Area gay and lesbian newspapers (including the *B.A.R.*), mailing information to candidates who have expressed interest in the past, posting and distributing flyers in the Castro and other areas of town,

and spreading the word through the Golden State Peace Officers Association, a professional organization of gay California law enforcement officers.

Hennessey said gay and lesbian members of the GSPOA also tutor deputy candidates in preparing for their exam, and the GSPOA will sponsor a "community night" later in November to welcome candidates to the department and educate them on careers in the Sheriff's Department.

Hennessey said the GSPOA's activities are important to welcome gay and lesbian candidates and ease any concerns they might have about becoming a deputy.

"That's the first barrier to overcome when recruiting a non-traditional group: welcoming them into our department," Hennessey said.

'Good role models'

Those recruiting efforts have led to a high percentage of gay and lesbian sheriff officers in the city. Hennessey said that about 200 of the 710 San Francisco Sheriff officers were gay or lesbian.

"We have many gays and lesbians who are out in a whole variety of ranks," he said. "They serve as good role models for younger deputies and show them that they can move up to higher ranks in our department."

The department recruits new deputies only once about every two years, Hennessey said. He said



Sheriff Michael Hennessey.

the department usually gets 800 or 900 interested candidates, and hires about 250 deputies every two years.

Minimum requirements for deputy candidates are: 20 years of age, 1 year of college or work experience, US citizenship (or eligible and have applied for citizenship), high school diploma or GED equivalent, and a California Driver's License.

No previous law enforcement experience is necessary; new hires will attend an introductory seven-week orientation to the Department and a 20-week state-certified police academy. The salary range for Deputies is \$32,338 to \$46,980. ▼

Anyone interested in more information should call or stop by the Sheriff's Department Recruitment Desk at 633 Folsom St. (between 2nd and Hawthorne), Room 200, or call the recruitment hotline at (415) 554-7000. Interested candidates must contact the department by November 15.

Civic Halloween

◀ page 1

that each of you is no doubt entitled to, including staying at home with some freshmade cookies with the little pumpkins inside and sitting down to watch *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*, the party formerly of the Castro is now at the Civic Center Plaza. The new location, so near the rubble that is our government, will have lots of nooks and crannies for nefarious vampire bites and such. Looks like a great set for an invasion. Let us fly down the hill.

Included in the entourage of entertainers on the gargantuan stage being erected as I write (yes, erected) are Sharon McKnight (loved *Beyond the Green Door*), Tia, whose "hypnotic rhythms, funky grooves and" etc. will sound good, it says here, plus comics Bruno and Suzanne Westenhoffer, for all of you folks who don't give a hoot when Ellen comes out. (Me, I wonder when Spence is coming out.)

In the "Now That You've Seen It All, He's Still A Bit Amusing" category: Dirk Shafer, who will be our Bert Parks for the costume show.

Did someone say Costume Show? Look out for Willie Brown in a Dr. Seuss rave hat.

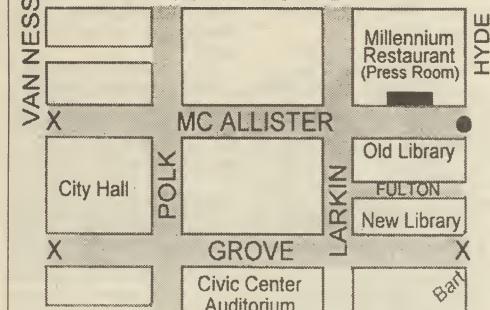
Yes, there will be rounds and rounds of costume competition, on the hour every hour, until midnight, the Witching Hour. And in the middle of all the frivolity Dirk Shafer will lead a nude world's record — (excuse me) new world's record — for Macarena dancing. As Miss Jean Brodie put it, "For those who like that sort of thing, that is the sort of thing they

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Educators convene to discuss gay issues

by Jesse Costello-Good

Last Saturday, October 26, the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE) and the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) held a conference on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender issues in education. The conference, named "United in Diversity," was held at James Logan High School in Union City.

Hundreds came from all over the state to discuss topics as diverse as how to start a Gay/Straight Alliance in schools, to how to use e-mail to be a gay activist. Linda Fernandez, president of the New Haven, Connecticut school board, even came to tell how her district has overcome conservative forces in its effort to fight homophobia.

The conference was designed to "bring together educators and community members concerned with homophobia in school, and to equip them with concrete strategies to make schools safe and supportive for all students." Even in the Bay Area, students still face harassment and threats from schoolmates. This was on the minds of many who attended the conference, especially those from schools in the Central Valley where gay bashings are common.

Still, there was an optimistic atmosphere at the conference. "I was born in Alabama in 1943, and if we had held this conference then, we would have been run out of town," said one speaker, Gail Sanchez. "You've come a long way because you've said stop the abuse."

"We know we're doing something right because of the rage we get from the religious right," said another.

As suggested above, there was a healthy dose of bashing of the religious right. GLSTN Executive



Delaine Eastin: "All students have the right to go to a school where they feel safe and secure."

Director Kevin Jennings said, "I have seen people use religion to justify their prejudices. It's time to use the Bible for good instead of for hate."

David Pava, the principal of James Logan High, was the first to speak at the conference. His school is unusually ethnically diverse, and because of multi-million dollar local bond measures, it is very high-tech. "One of the things we take pride in is our diversity. We recognize that diversity is all inclusive," said Pava.

Delaine Eastin, California State Superintendent of Public Education, gave the keynote ad-

dress. Before rushing off to another engagement in Southern California, Eastin gave a rousing speech that praised diversity. "All students have the right to go to a school where they feel safe and secure. I don't care if they're gay or straight, no child should be harassed in the schools of California," she said. "Gay and lesbian teenagers are two to three times more likely to commit suicide in California. That alone is reason for this conference."

Lunchtime entertainment was provided by the Raw-Rahs, a Bay Area cheerleading squad of gay men. ▼

PBS may show film on gay issues in school

by Jesse Costello-Good

A new film by Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen called *It's Elementary* is dispelling the myth that elementary school is too early for kids to be taught about gay and lesbian issues.

The film begins with clips of elementary school-aged children discussing homosexuality, interspersed with clips of a homophobic senator arguing to keep gay themes out of schools. The children are generally positive towards gays and lesbians, supporting equal rights as a result of logic rather than politics. This theme of innocent children devoid of prejudices carries throughout the film as we visit elementary schools all over the country. A few adults show their support, but the thesis – that gay and lesbian issues should be taught in elementary school – is proven by the chil-

dren's classroom discussions.

The film kicked off a national tour three weeks ago in Salt Lake City, Utah, which, Chasnoff said, "really shook things up there." In San Francisco, the film debuted at the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival in June. After its success at the festival, the San Francisco school district bought a copy and paid 250 teachers to watch the film.

Chasnoff, an Academy Award winner, started working on *It's Elementary* in the fall of 1993. Inspiration came from her son, who was just about to start elementary school. She also felt that gays and lesbians were "politically losing ground to the right, who have campaigned to keep these issues out of the schools." The film was designed to be less controversial because it is "not a gay rights issue; we changed it into an anti-violence [against gays and lesbians] argument," Chasnoff told the B.A.R.

Finding schools that had programs and where the administrators would allow filming was one of the biggest hurdles in making the film. The film includes segments from San Francisco (featuring controversial Community United Against Violence speakers), New York City, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and many places in-between.

So far, the film has been incredibly successful, winning the award for best documentary at the Chicago International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. There have been over 1,000 requests for the film from all over the country from teachers, schools, policy makers, and individuals. The film has been received well in the middle of the country as well as on the coast.

It's Elementary has been submitted for broadcast on PBS. The directors hope that it will be aired, and will find out if it has been accepted in January. ▼



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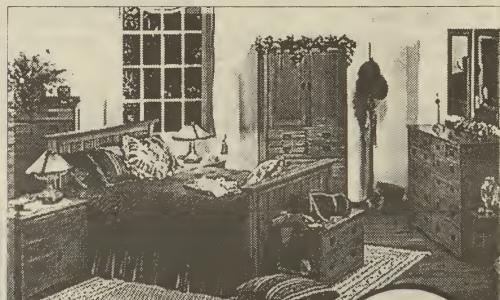
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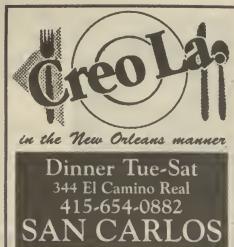
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How did your legislator legislate?

Lambda Letters issues new report cards for California politicians

by Marghe Covino

Lambda Letters, a statewide organization that tracks legislation of interest to gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender people, women, people of color, and HIV/AIDS communities, has issued a report that indicates by percentage how legislators voted in the 1995/96 legislative session.

Lambda Letters also writes letters, sends them to its membership for signature, and then mails them to legislators regarding the issues of interest. Although Lambda Letters' report is statewide, the following list is of interest to Bay Area residents:

Assembly districts

District 1, Sonoma: Dan Hauser (D), not running - 85%;

District 6, Sonoma/Marin: Kerry Mazzoni (D), running - 100%;

District 7, Sonoma county: Valerie Brown (D), running - 100%;



Half and half: Term-ed-out Sen. Quentin Kopp only got a 50% rating.

District 11, Contra Costa: Robert Campbell (D), not running - 100%;

District 13, San Francisco: Carl Migen (D), running - n/a;

District 14, Alameda and Contra Costa counties: Tom Bates (D), not running - 100%;

District 15, Alameda/Contra Costa: Richard K. Rainey (R), not running - 40%;

District 16, Alameda: Barbara Lee (D), running for Senate - 100%;

District 18, Alameda: Michael Sweeney (D), running - 90%;

District 19, San Mateo: Jackie Speier (D), not running - 100%;

District 20, Alameda/Santa Clara: Liz Figueroa (D), running - 100%;

District 22, Santa Clara: John Vasconcellos (D), running for Senate - 95%;

District 23, Santa Clara: Dominic Cortese (RF), not running - 75%;

District 24, Santa Clara: Jim Cunneen (R), not running - 65%;

Senate districts :

District 2, Sonoma: Mike Thompson (D), not running - 100%;

District 3, San Francisco/Marin/Sonoma: Milton Marks (D), not running - 100%;

District 7, Alameda/Contra Costa: Dan Boatwright (D), not running - 90%;

District 8, San Francisco/San Mateo: Quentin Kopp (IND), not running - 50%;

District 9, Alameda/Contra Costa: Nicholas C. Petris (D), not running - 95%;

District 10, Alameda/Santa Clara: Bill Lockyer (D), not running - 100%;

District 11, San Mateo/Santa Clara: Byron Sher (D), running - 100%;

District 13, Santa Clara: Alfred E. Alquist (D), not running - 95%;

District 15, Santa Clara: Henry Mello (D), not running - 100%.

For a full statewide report, which delineates bills and votes, write to Boyce Hinman, Administrator, The Lambda Letters Project, 6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael CA 95608, and enclose \$2 for postage and handling. You may also indicate whether you want to become a member of Lambda Letters and have letters sent to you for your signature and then mailed for you by the organization to your legislators. In addition, you will receive a monthly newsletter. There is no charge, but donations are welcome. ▼

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Candidates and the gay community

by Cynthia Laird

Virtually every candidate for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors contacted by the *Bay Area Reporter* had plenty of personal stories of their efforts to end homophobia and plans to continue fighting anti-gay bigotry. Across the political spectrum, in San Francisco at least, politicians court gay and lesbian residents instead of demonizing them.

It's easy to see the gay community's strides in two decades when comparing the first reelections of an openly gay man and lesbian (Elaine Noble and Allen Spear in 1976, when the media said "known" homosexual and "admitted" lesbian) with the answers to the 1996 *Bay Area Reporter* questionnaire. Now there is a plethora of proud gay and lesbian candidates, and even those who aren't gay have clearly spent some time considering the issues facing our community.

Among those straight-but-not-narrow candidates is Supervisor **Barbara Kaufman**, who in her first term authored provisions for the new city charter that secure civil rights for gay people, unique among American cities. She also was the one who first suggested allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry in City Hall, and is in favor of enacting legislation to protect the adoption and custody rights of gay parents. She is especially proud, she says, to have a 100% pro-lesbian/gay voting record.

Supervisor **Sue Bierman**, who has long fought for gay causes (from donating money to walking the picket line outside a radio station because of a deejay's homophobia), seeks to get more of the gay community involved in helping to solve problems, from crime in the Polk Gulch area to gay bashing.

Supervisor **Michael Yaki**, who recently participated in the city's Children and Youth Summit and ensured that gay kids, a gay parent, and a gay youth advocate were all involved, also believes the community should work more with police to reduce bashings and crime.

Among the openly queer candidates is Supervisor **Leslie Katz**, who is facing her first election to that seat since her appointment

by Mayor Willie Brown. As president of the Community College Board, she successfully fought the ROTC program from being allowed to return to the campus. She said she'll fight for full funding of programs to fight AIDS and breast cancer.

Victor Marquez, an openly gay Latino, said he's a builder of bridges between communities and helped diversify the board of the Community Center Project. He advocates using the board of supervisors' oversight power to ensure city social workers are trained in the value of all kinds of families, regardless of gender.

Lorin Rosemond, an openly gay African-American, proposes new businesses must prove the neighborhood where they want to open an outlet is underserved in their category. This would effectively keep out chains that directly compete with existing small businesses, such as chains that have recently opened in the Castro.

Shawn O'Hearn, another openly gay candidate, suggested walking patrols be increased in neighborhoods with large gay/lesbian populations. He said city planning efforts should include "neighborhood-based" planning that evaluates proposals based on long-range development.

Margo St. James said that as an openly bisexual woman, she's never shied away from talking frankly about sex and sexuality. She supports passing local ordinances governing the Department of Social Services to ensure discrimination is not tolerated concerning gay and lesbian parents.

Other straight candidates on the ballot include **Carlos Petroni**, who has worked with volunteer programs to prevent anti-gay violence in the Mission, and advocates "harsh prosecution" of hate crimes against gays and lesbians as well as people of color and women.

Carolene Marks pointed to her consistent support of openly gay candidates and causes. She believes the city must provide strong support and advocacy on behalf of gay and lesbian parents, including adopted and foster parents. Marks said more community policing is needed in the Polk Gulch area to fight increased crime.

Dr. Leland Yee, a school board member, noted his strong

support for the CUAV speakers bureau to provide gay and lesbian education services in city schools. As an ethnic minority, Yee said he's been a victim of isolation and discrimination and can appreciate similar experiences of gays and lesbians.

Police Commissioner **Jose Medina** said it's unacceptable for any citizen in San Francisco to be targeted for violence based on who they are. He'd work with neighbors and beat officers to address specific issues in city neighborhoods.

Republican **Manuel Rosales** said he'd have more influence with Governor Pete Wilson than any other board member, and could talk with him concerning Wilson's efforts to deny gay and lesbian parents custody. He'd also like to talk with members of the gay community and gay officials to find out their concerns regarding Wilson's proposals. ▼

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EXIT TO PARADISE & RELAX!

Supe candidates discuss AIDS issues

by Liz Highleyman

Next Tuesday's election will see a field of 28 candidates vying for six open seats on the Board of Supervisors. The candidates as a whole espouse progressive views on issues related to HIV/AIDS, but their priorities and approaches differ in several respects.

Ten candidates spoke on AIDS-related issues at a forum sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) on October 17th. The candidates present were incumbent Sue Bierman, Donna Casey, incumbents Leslie Katz and Barbara Kaufman, Carolene Marks, Victor Marquez, Jose Medina, Margo St. James, incumbent Michael Yaki, and Dr. Leland Yee.

In light of impending federal cuts, AIDS funding received considerable attention. Bierman expressed her desire to build on the new sense of hope surrounding HIV disease, and emphasized the importance of increasing funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), the state program that pays for HIV/AIDS drugs, while at the same time pressuring

the government to push drug companies to lower their prices. Kaufman spoke in favor of using budget reserves to make up for federal cuts, and especially wants to see protease inhibitor drugs made available. Katz pointed to the impending welfare crisis and the need to set aside city funds to make up for ADAP and Ryan White shortfalls. Marks also wants to maintain ADAP funding, but also noted the importance of alternative/complementary therapies in the treatment of HIV disease.

Marquez said he would be a very loud voice to fight for programs to save lives. He favors increased prevention funding – especially for gay/lesbian/bisexual people, youth, and communities of color – and believes that "everyone should have access" to promising new drugs. Medina also wants the city to set aside money to make up for ADAP shortfalls; he advocates increased AIDS services, especially for women, and increased funding for research and prevention. Medina also noted the importance of re-establishing a Democratic state congressional majority in order to preserve AIDS funding. St. James

wants to expand prevention initiatives and intervention programs, and to make sure that vulnerable target populations such as sex workers are not overlooked. Yaki stated that meeting the needs of people with AIDS in San Francisco was "non-negotiable." He advocated the use of general fund money to make up for federal cuts, and wants protease inhibitors covered by city insurance. Yee emphasized the need for alternative sources of funding to substitute for reduced federal outlays.

Money matters

Yet the candidates do not support blindly pouring money into ineffectual programs.

Katz emphasized the need for a "long, hard look at how money is spent" – including the auditing of agencies – in order to "get the most out of the money." Kaufman believes it is essential that the city monitor contracts and ask "Who is doing the best job of saving lives?" Yee cited the recent merger of Living Well and the Asian AIDS Project as an example of an efficient use of scarce funds.

When asked whether AIDS treatment or basic needs should take priority, the candidates agreed that they could not make such a choice, and that funding would have to be increased so that both areas could be addressed. Kaufman said, "We must accommodate both treatment and basic human needs such as housing... it can't be one or the other." Yaki emphasized the importance of addressing the needs of multiply-diagnosed people (e.g., those with HIV disease, substance abuse problems, and mental health issues) by providing coordinated services and a continuum of care. All of the candidates at the forum favor Proposition A, which would raise funds for affordable low-income housing.

Several candidates do not look at HIV/AIDS in isolation. Marquez favors a single payer universal healthcare plan for all San Franciscans. Medina also supports universal healthcare. Yee emphasized his support for healthcare and education for all city residents, including undocumented immigrants. Union activist Carlos Petroni and Lucrecia Bermudez,

Lungren, who recently forced the closure of a program in Santa Clara when he threatened to jail city authorities. Kaufman said, "Of course I would go" if necessary.

Harm-reduction advocate St. James stated that she had been to jail before and would go again to defend needle exchange, but she went further, calling for a repeal of paraphernalia laws and the legal sale of needles in pharmacies. Yaki noted that as an incumbent he is happy to vote every other week to re-authorize the state of emergency that keeps needle exchange programs in the city operational, although he believes that drug treatment on demand is as important as needle exchange in curbing the spread of AIDS; when asked about going to jail, Yaki replied, "Put the cuffs on."

Grass rooters?

The issue of medical marijuana for people with AIDS and other illnesses appears non-controversial among the candidates. At least 20 of the candidates, including all who attended the forum and all the front-runners in recent polls, have come out in favor of Proposition 215.

An issue that has been the subject of much speculation lately – the candidates' independence from Mayor Willie Brown – also received attention at the forum. Casey stated that she would express her disagreement with the mayor "if I felt he was wrong." Former prostitute St. James reiterated her oft-quoted statement, "I have never laid down for Willie Brown; and I never will!"

Candidates have a tendency to say what voters want to hear, so their favorable responses at a forum sponsored by the SFAF were perhaps expected. It is therefore interesting to look also at the statements the candidates submitted for the city's Voter Information Pamphlet. Several candidates – including Bierman, Katz, Kaufman, Marks, and Yee – mention the need for accessible, high quality healthcare. However, only a few mention AIDS specifically. Bruce Quan, a civil rights attorney who is invisible in the polls, lists AIDS education and prevention among his top four priorities. St. James lists among her accomplishments the initiation (in 1984) of the first peer-based HIV/AIDS prevention group for prostitutes in the state. Marquez promises that as supervisor he would "redouble the fight against AIDS/HIV." ▼

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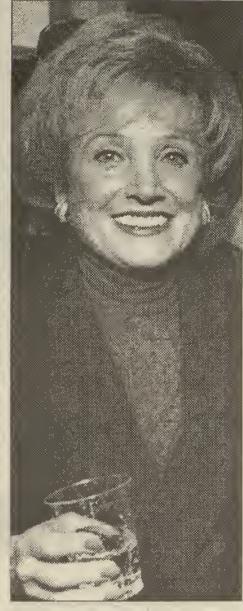
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Prospective jailbird
Barbara Kaufman.

who did not appear at the forum, are both running on a platform that calls for the "defense and expansion" of immigrant rights.

Openly lesbian incumbent Katz noted the importance of educating society and reducing discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS. She expressed her support for ongoing city-funded condom distribution in bars and similar venues, "not just at the Pride parade." St. James spoke out against mandatory HIV testing, in particular the current policy of mandatory testing of those arrested for prostitution, claiming that such testing diverts resources from treatment. She called the policy "crazy and backwards" and suggested that any mandatory testing program should "start with the governor." St. James's stance against mandatory testing is consistent with her successful effort in 1974 to stop the mandatory administration of penicillin to those arrested for prostitution.

In response to a question, all ten candidates at the forum went on record as being willing to go to jail to defend needle exchange. Needle exchange programs in California – such as San Francisco's Prevention Point – are threatened by the increasingly hostile stance of Attorney General Dan

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AIDS, pot, condoms, and more: Candidates on health issues

by Cynthia Laird

AIDS education and treatment, medical marijuana programs, substance abuse concerns, and the distribution of condoms in gay bars and clubs were just some of the important health-related issues that the *Bay Area Reporter* recently asked candidates running for seats on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to elucidate.

The candidates were asked if they think San Francisco is still "a model" regarding AIDS education and prevention programs, and whether they think the city should aggressively pursue clinical studies of possible treatments. The majority said they think San Francisco continues to be a leader in the area of HIV/AIDS, but cautioned that the city may need to make changes.

Lorin Rosemond, the only openly gay African-American man in the race, said, "San Francisco is a model. But that is only because services in other cities are so poor." He proposes a "single point of entry" system, so that when someone is diagnosed with AIDS at a city facility, they are assigned a single caseworker for services.

Andy Clark, a former assistant district attorney, said he's "convinced departmental audits would free up additional revenue" that could then be used in the fight against AIDS.

Supervisor **Michael Yaki**, who was appointed to the board by Mayor Willie Brown earlier this year, pointed out the city's HIV Prevention Planning Council authored the highest-ranked plan in the country, and AIDS programs at San Francisco General Hospital continue to be rated among the nation's best. Yaki said he worked with AIDS activists this year to secure city funds to help offset a shortfall in federal Ryan White CARE funds, and he'll continue to fight for funding for AIDS/HIV services.

Openly gay and HIV-positive candidate **Shawn O'Hearn** said he does not see San Francisco as "a model" regarding AIDS issues and charged "there is no leadership in advocating for serious education/prevention." O'Hearn also said he was excluded from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's candidates forum, which "just reinforced how out of touch and unresponsive the AIDS organizations in San Francisco really are."

Victor Marquez, an openly gay Latino, said the "model" is "stretched to capacity," and supports better coordination so that duplication of efforts is avoided.

CBC Si!

Another question asked about support for a Cannabis Buyers Club, and whether one should have more stringent eligibility criteria, such as required by the Oakland club or other agencies here that have started medical marijuana distribution. The question was coupled with the issue of a city-supported subsidy program to provide medical marijuana to those on limited incomes.

Sex-workers advocate **Margo St. James** emphasized the social importance that the now-closed Cannabis Buyers Club in San Francisco provided. She said that since the August 4 raid, there hasn't been another institution which could step in and fill the void.

"I do support creating a space which does provide the same sense of community as the Buyers Club did," St. James said, adding she fully supports some sort of subsidy program. "It is vital that people with life-threatening illness have access to any and all therapeutic treatments which can help them with the side effects of other drugs, or enable them to live longer."

Manuel Rosales, a member of the city's Republican County Central Committee and advocate of small business, said that while he supports Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative, he's opposed to the city funding a subsidy program.

"When used in the quantities recommended for medicinal uses, marijuana is as affordable as tobacco. We are moving away from federal subsidies for tobacco products... I want less government spending, not more," Rosales stated.

Incumbent Supervisor **Barbara Kaufman** said she would support a buyers club with more stringent eligibility requirements. As for a subsidy program, she said, "Any such club should work with Dr. Sandra Hernandez and the Department of Public Health (DPH) to ensure that medical marijuana is available to all individuals who need it, regardless of income."

Ellis Keyes, a veteran of numerous supervisorial campaigns, said, "The CBC is cool with me. ... I propose that we open a new office in City Hall of the reefer inspector to insure quality control of good pot." He added, "I will personally volunteer for the job."

San Francisco florist **Harold Hoogasian** said, "Medical marijuana with stringent controls is something I support."

Scott Durcanin, who works for a bank, said he would support a privately subsidized program,

but is against using city funds.

Crystal clarity

The candidates were also asked if they think amphetamine use is a serious enough issue for the supervisors to get involved.

Police Commissioner **Jose Medina** said the problem "has become an epidemic," and supports a program of coordinated city services to address the issue. "Most importantly, people who want help must receive treatment on demand," Medina said.

Leland Yee, who currently serves on the San Francisco Board of Education, said amphetamine use and illicit drug abuse in general are major problems in the city, and the supervisors should "aggressively pursue state and federal funding for drug education, prevention, and treatment programs." By funding such programs, he said, the city could significantly reduce the burden on police, the courts, the district attorney's office, and jails. Too many resources are "eaten up by our criminal justice system," Yee added.

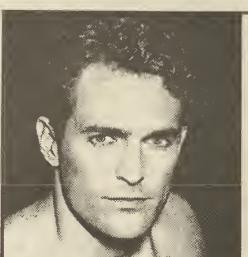
Carolene Marks, who has been involved with several healthcare issues and is a survivor of breast cancer, said amphetamine use is an especially serious problem among young adults. If elected, she supports working with the DPH and non-profit organizations to "increase prevention and education efforts to raise awareness efforts concerning this deadly drug."

Mission activist **Carlos Petroni** said he does not see amphetamine use as a serious problem, "except in those instances in which crime is involved."

A question was also asked about whether the gay and lesbian communities are taking full advantage of city services such as victim counseling, mental health, and substance abuse programs. Specifically, candidates were asked if there needs to be more education and information made available in the Castro, Polk, and South of Market areas of the city.

Lesbian supervisor **Leslie Katz**, who was appointed to the board in May by Mayor Willie

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'96 San Francisco Supervisor candidates

See how they'd run San Francisco

by Dennis Conkin

From a socialist oil refinery worker who takes no position on local ballot issues, to a Haight Ashbury anti-drug crusader who worries that gay bar patrons in his neighborhood are targeted for violence, to the child of a wealthy former Pacific Heights socialite who abandoned the good life for the austere cell of a cloistered nun, this year's bumper crop of candidates for San Francisco Supervisor have a wide range of opinions on issues related to city government.

When candidates responded to a *Bay Area Reporter* survey asking them to weigh in on the district voting proposal on the ballot, suggestions to streamline the effectiveness of city government, revenue generation, Muni safety and quality of service, and their ability to maintain their independence from Mayor Willie Brown, Muni was clearly a top priority for most.

Openly gay candidate **Shawn O'Hearn** says that Muni should implement riders' suggestions: be on time, clean the booths, and have drivers take conflict resolution training. Also, he said, police should make hourly walks aboard all Muni busses.

Incumbent **Michael Yaki** agrees that Muni drivers need mandatory sensitivity training, and says he thinks small mini-



Savage Photography (katz), Jane Philomen Cleland (yee) and Rick Gerhardt (Bierman)

Talk supes (l to r): Incumbents Leslie Katz and Sue Bierman and hopefuls Victor Marquez, Carolene Marks and Leland Yee.

buses should replace diesel coaches on lightly-traveled lines during evenings.

Candidate **Margo St. James** says the city should reinstitute the small jitney vans that once operated independently along major bus routes, and that the agency needs more mechanics and drivers and less middle management.

Openly gay candidate **Victor Marquez** told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the city needs to prioritize long-term solutions for Muni, such as a transit assessment

district and training for drivers

Candidate **Jose Medina** told the *B.A.R.* that Muni's problems seemed intractable, but agreed there should be widespread reforms in the agency — from performance-based job standards to expanded service and driver training.

Perennial candidate **Ellis Keyes** said, somewhat lightheartedly, that Muni should have drivers trained in cultural sensitivity issues, and in singing; that way, he said, they can serenade Muni pas-

sengers along their routes.

Independence way

Mayor Brown's recent comments about "pantywaist politicians" serving on the Board of Supervisors notwithstanding, all candidates stressed the need for an independent Board of Supervisors.

"The *San Francisco Chronicle* recently described the Board of Supervisors as the lap dog rubber stamp of the mayor. I will maintain independence from the mayor when I think it is in the best interest of the community," said former Assistant District Attorney **Andy Clark**. "I agree with the mayor on many issues, but I also disagree often."

Progressive candidate **Carlos Petroni** would also ensure "absolute independence," and says that a supervisor is a part of the legislative power, not an appendix of the executive. Independence is maintained by representing and following your constituency," he said.

Manny Rosales says political independence from Brown is a core theme of his campaign, and that he stood up to the mayor against Proposition E. He also says that during his tenures on the city's Department of Parking and Traffic and the Redevelopment Commission, he never compromised the public good when the "mayor or any of his toadies have overstepped the bounds" of integrity.

African-American gay candidate **Lorin Rosemond** said he has already opposed the mayor on three different occasions "to his face — including Prop. B and Prop. E." He added, "I am the only candidate in this race that has a record of not bowing to the feet of the mayor. I will continue to do what is right, whether or not it's what Willie wants."

Incumbent lesbian **Leslie Katz** said she would maintain her independence, despite her appointment by Brown. "While we must work together, I will continue to remain independent. The mayor and I have disagreed on a number of issues, and I will continue to disagree with him when my beliefs conflict with his," Katz said.

Clinical psychologist and school board member **Leland Yee** said political independence was essential for the board, adding that although it can't be a

rubber stamp for any mayor, neither should it be "constantly at odds with the mayor to the point where the city cannot move forward."

Haight Ashbury Residents Against Drugs member **Joe Konopka** believes independence would be improved with the implementation of district elections, and says there could be four gay and lesbian supervisors if such elections were held this race.

Candidate **Carolene Marks** also told the *Bay Area Reporter* she supports changing the way supervisors are elected, and that either preferential voting or district elections will even the score for minority candidates.

Revenuers

Government efficiencies and revenue generation were also of concern to candidates.

Scott Durcanin told the *B.A.R.* that he would like to ensure that city employees live in the city, and said we should privatize some city services and reduce government employees.

Incumbent **Sue Bierman** also had suggestions about potential revenue streams. "I believe both the public and the private sector will have to be more generous," Bierman said. "I continue to support a Downtown Transit Assessment District as a source of funding for MUNI." As for streamlining city government, Bierman said that she was open to hearing criticism of any department, but "hasn't singled out any one as in need of correction."

Incumbent Supervisor **Barbara Kaufman** pointed out that she led the effort to write and secure approval for the city's new charter, which reorganizes the bulk of city management functions, and that her proposed Department of Neighborhood Services begins next month.

Kaufman also cited her previous efficiency measures, which included instituting management audits for all city departments and designing a solution to the backlog of Assessment Board appeals that could have cost the city tens of millions of dollars in revenue. Kaufman is the Supervisor responsible for installing change machines at underground Muni stops three years ago, finally allowing passengers stuck with dollar bills to get change, and ending a Muni impasse that had lasted more than a decade. ▼

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Leslie Katz wants widespread condom program in SF bars, clubs

DPH to draft plan for Dec. Castro hearing

by Cynthia Laird

Citing recent news articles and editorials in the *Bay Area Reporter* detailing the lack of readily available condoms in the city, Supervisor Leslie Katz called for the development of a widespread condom distribution program at the Monday, October 28 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Katz has asked the Department of Public Health (DPH) to formulate a plan for distribution of condoms in bars and clubs throughout San Francisco. She said the board's Government Efficiency and Labor Committee is expected to hold a hearing on the plan when it meets in the Castro neighborhood December 12.

The B.A.R. has given extensive coverage to the condom distribution issue, most recently reporting that the latex was not easily found during the Folsom Street Fair on September 29. Following the popular leather fair, a B.A.R. editorial expressed concern about the lack of condoms and the need for them to be available.

The following weekend, during the Castro Street Fair, condoms were free for the asking at most neighborhood bars. An in-

formal survey of 15 bars and clubs that afternoon revealed free condom displays were at all but four of the establishments.

"The B.A.R. was the first to get the word out," Katz said in an interview after the board meeting. "It's a significant problem, and I was happy to be able to do something about it. I pay attention to things in the community."

Katz said she wants to look into getting foundations and private companies to cover some of the expense involved.

In June, the DPH spent \$10,000 to purchase about 200,000 latex condoms. They were distributed in gay bars and sex clubs throughout the city during pride week, health department officials said.

Currently, sex clubs are required to make condoms and other safe sex materials freely available to customers, according to the city-sponsored Coalition for Healthy Sex guidelines.

"Sadly, individuals continue to contract HIV despite effective educational efforts designed to teach people how to prevent infection," Katz said. "While education is essential, it is also critical that we provide people with the tools to protect themselves. Condoms are

an important tool in fighting the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases."

She added that it's time for the city to be more "proactive in our public health measures," and that everything necessary should be done to make condoms readily available to anyone who needs them.

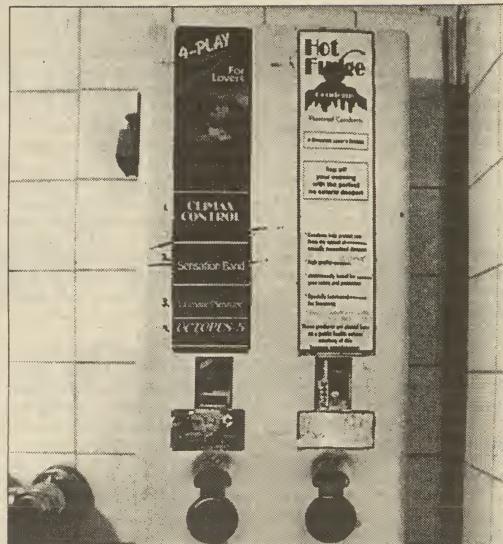
"There is no reason that any person should leave a bar or club in San Francisco in 1996 without being provided a free condom. It is time we take the step of ensuring that no one engages in unsafe sex because they did not have a condom available," Katz added.

Geoff Kors, an aide to Katz, said that the proposed program will be widespread, with gay establishments emphasized, but bars and clubs of all types would be targeted throughout the city.

"We also want to educate bars that cater to heterosexuals," Kors told the B.A.R.

The supervisor has asked DPH staff to provide her office with estimated costs of distribution, so that she can determine whether to request a supplemental budget appropriation to cover the cost of the prevention program.

Katz expects to have a draft of the DPH condom distribution plan available so that it can be dis-



Phil McGuire Jr.

Don't buy this gum, it tastes like rubber. Besides, the city will be providing them for free at local bars.

cussed when the government committee holds a meeting in the Castro area next month. One anticipated topic is the stash of 10,000 "internal" Reality condoms the city purchased and has made available on a limited basis until

now.

Katz, a member of the committee along with Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Michael Yaki, said they will also discuss other issues of concern to the gay community at the December hearing. ▼

HIV Council keeps AIDS Office co-chair

by Cynthia Laird

A lengthy, sometimes tense debate by members of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council on Monday, October 28 resulted in no change to the council's leadership, keeping the city's AIDS Office representative as one of three co-chairs. Two separate motions failed, and left many people wondering what had been accomplished.

At issue are two distinct philosophies among members. Some, such as Will Carter, feel having the AIDS Office in a co-chair position results in an inherent conflict of interest. Others, like Mary Jane Wood, who has been on the council since it was established in 1990, said that she sees the AIDS Office co-chair as a very good example of bringing all parties together.

Norm Nickens, the AIDS Office co-chair, acknowledged a legitimate concern when several members said he sometimes uses words such as "we" or "us," and they don't know whether he's referring to the planning council or the AIDS Office. He also stated that he is not a voting member of the planning council.

The two positions, in various forms, were debated for about an

hour and a half Monday, with no resolution in sight. Dr. Sandra Hernandez, San Francisco's director of health, submitted a letter to the council urging members to retain the AIDS Office co-chair. At the council's March 11 meeting, minutes reveal Hernandez saying the office should relinquish its co-chair position.

The first motion voted on by the council was to postpone the issue until January, after the council's prioritization process is completed. That failed by a 14-13 vote against postponement. All council votes must pass by two-thirds. The second motion was to delete the AIDS Office co-chair and to elect a new co-chair in January. That failed by a 16-13 vote.

'Expedited implementation'

In a letter dated October 24, Hernandez, who served as the council's first co-chair six years ago, said the intent of the AIDS Office co-chair was to "facilitate the expedited implementation of the council's actions; to establish a formal linkage between the council and director of health; and to ensure continuity in our partnership between the community and the department."

After reviewing the council's recent deliberations regarding the

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Miller out, Oxendine in at NTFAP

Nationwide search for successor begun

by Cynthia Laird

Randy Miller, who for the last three years has been the executive director of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP), has resigned from the agency, it was announced Friday, October 18. The group's board of directors has begun a nationwide search to find Miller's successor.

Miller assumed the position following the leadership of long-time AIDS activist Reggie Williams, who was NTFAP's founder and "spiritual leader."

"Randy joined NTFAP at a time when we faced one of our most challenging transitions," said H. Alexander Robinson, NTFAP's board president.

Robinson was recently appointed administrator of federal affairs for the Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR).

NTFAP is a San Francisco-based national organization that provides local prevention and care services to communities of color. NTFAP was founded in 1988 to provide leadership and advocacy on behalf of gay men of color to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and care for people living with HIV.

Robinson praised Miller's leadership of the group.

"He successfully steered us through those emotionally difficult times. I am certain that his contri-

butions to people living with HIV and the gay men of color movement are only beginning," Robinson said. "We wish him every success in his future endeavors."

Steve Oxendine, NTFAP's recently appointed director of national programs, has taken the helm as the organization's acting executive director.

"Mr. Oxendine has proven once again that he is a person of great personal commitment and courage," noted NTFAP treasurer Richard Tagle of Washington D.C. "He accepted the board's request to step in and provide us with his expertise without a moment's hesitation."

NTFAP recently launched its "Recreating Our Future" campaign, a multi-year coalition effort with the goal of "ending the epidemic among gay men of color by cutting the number of new infections in half in the next five years," according to Christopher Bates, chair of the NTFAP's public policy committee and a member of the Washington D.C. CARE Consortium.

"We are really excited about this campaign — look for exciting strategies [from the campaign] over the next year," Bates said.

Likewise, NTFAP's local efforts will get a "shot in the arm," according to San Francisco resident Chris Sandoval, the organization's vice president.

"As a fierce advocate for our local programs, I'm working to ex-

pand our board to include more San Franciscans. For me, this is a real priority," Sandoval said. "Randy has been our primary advocate in the Bay Area. There's nothing like the challenge of a transition in leadership to give you a wake-up call. This was mine."

Lawrence "Carrie" Farrell of Boston, who chairs NTFAP's national search committee, said the organization is now seeking

Miller's successor.

"We are looking for that unique individual who has demonstrated commitment to ending the epidemic among gay men of color and caring for people living with AIDS," Farrell said. "Someone who has a proven track record of effective management that has prepared them to meet the challenges of our dynamic and growing institution." ▼



Randy Miller.

Rick Gerharter

Stop the presses: Sex and controversy sell!

News briefs by United Press International

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS—A little bit of censorship apparently proved profitable for the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts. Last week ten of some 300 works of art on display in International Place in Boston were censored by being draped in black and then removed. Eight were later reinstated before the ARTcetera auction last weekend at International Place.

Officials say one of the banned

works — a photo by Nan Goldin showing two naked men in a tub kissing — was sold for \$4,000. It had been valued at just under \$1,400. Total proceeds from the seventh annual auction were \$400,000. That compares to the previous record of \$260,000 set two years ago.

Episcopal schism

(Buffalo, New York) Two Buffalo-area Episcopal priests split from their parent body and joined a splinter group Wednesday, October 23, unhappy with the church's position supporting same-sex marriage, the ordination of gays, and abortion. The Reverend David Dodge and the Reverend Michael Welch say they reached their decisions independently and after a lot of thought. Their new congregation is one of 200 affiliated with the national Charismatic Episcopal Church, formed in 1992. Its leader, Archbishop Randolph Sly of Kansas, will attend the new church on Sunday.

Catholics ban gay discussion

(Denver) A progressive Catholic organization has been banned by the Archbishop of the Catholic Church. In a letter in this week's *Catholic Register*, J. Francis Stafford has "enjoined" all people of the archdiocese to refrain from any activity which promotes or supports "We are Church." The ban includes meetings on church property. The progressive group calls for discussion of such issues as ordaining women and married men and welcoming gays into the church.

Infect a person, go to jail

(New Orleans, Louisiana) A New Orleans man becomes the second person in Louisiana to be convicted for intentionally exposing someone to HIV. 63-year-old Onofre Serrano was found guilty by a state district court jury of infecting his girlfriend.

He faces up to ten years in prison.

Cameron cries 'fraud'

(Colorado Springs, Colorado) The chairman of the Family Research Institute said legal briefs submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of overturning Amendment 2 were examples of fraud and misrepresentation. Paul Cameron said groups like the National Education Association and the American Psychiatric Association wrongly made assertions

such as there is no evidence that homosexuals molest children any more than heterosexuals do. Amendment 2, an anti-gay rights measure, was overturned by the Supreme Court earlier this year. Cameron has been expelled from several professional organizations for statistical irregularities and ethics violations.

Defrauders of gays turn to murder

(Jackson, Mississippi) Federal prosecutors have announced a 52-count indictment of five people, including former Biloxi Mayor Pete Halat. The indictment accuses a prison inmate of ordering the contract killing of Biloxi Judge Vincent Sherry, Halat's former law partner. Sherry and his wife were slain in their home nine years ago. The murders were allegedly part of a criminal enterprise that included drug smuggling and telephone scams of gay men, operated from the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Scondras and the fight that won't end

(Boston, Massachusetts) A magistrate has issued a criminal complaint against former Boston City Councilor David Scondras, charging him with indecent assault on a teenage boy he met at a movie theater last summer.

The openly gay Scondras was accused of molesting the boy from Washington state in August, just before the two got into a fight that put Scondras in the hospital for several days. Scondras called the court action nothing more than political gaybashing by unnamed city officials, whom he said opposed his attempts to advance gay rights while he was on the City Council.

He noted that neither he nor the boy's family have any desire to press charges against each other.

Civil servant with HIV blasts GOP

(Olympia, Washington) State Superintendent of Public Instruction Judith Billings has come out with a series of ads sharply criticizing Republicans for their policies on AIDS. Billings, who announced last year that she has been infected with HIV, accuses the GOP of "playing politics" with AIDS and says the party doesn't deserve votes. Billings's ads are in response to a Republican party ad that attacks Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gary Locke for supporting an AIDS prevention program for prostitutes. ▼

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Liz Harmon—San Diego Business Journal, April, 1994

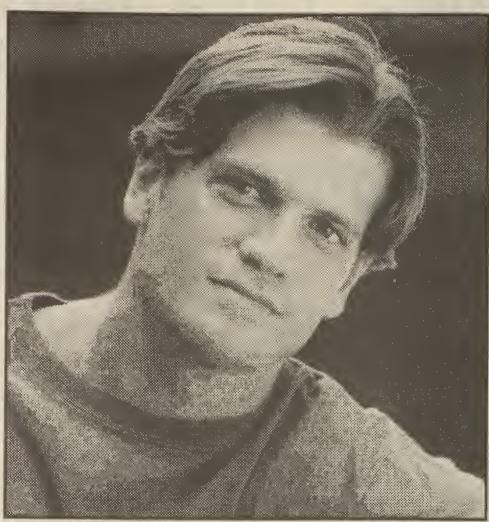
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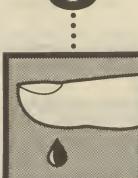
William Hoffman—Small Business News, April, 1994

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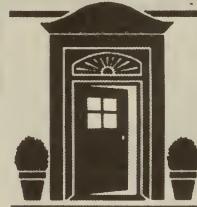
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EROS



UCLA docs prove pregnancy hormone fights KS

Spares bone marrow

by Susan Milius, UPI

In one of the first tests of its kind on humans, injections of a hormone normally produced by pregnant women showed promise in treating the AIDS-related cancer Kaposi's sarcoma, researchers said Wednesday, October 23.

Injecting the hormone called human chorionic gonadotropin, or hCG, into skin tumors made them shrink or even disappear at certain doses, said Dr. Parkash Gill from the University of Southern California School of Medicine in Los Angeles.

He and an international collaboration of scientists published results in *The New England Journal of Medicine* of a trial of hCG on 36 people with AIDS suffering from the early stage of Kaposi's sarcoma with characteristic purplish lesions on the skin.

Gill told United Press International that this test was only the

first step in a series of hCG trials. The results just published show "it can be used for local treatment," dispensed as injections in a particular tumor, he said. Other tests will determine whether injections under the skin could have more widespread effects on the body and treat people whose disease has advanced to internal tumors.

The hormone hCG floods the body during early pregnancy and has intrigued AIDS researchers since Dr. Robert Gallo reported last year that pregnant mice did not seem to get Kaposi's sarcoma.

Several letters in the journal *Lancet* have described tests of hCG on humans, but Gill said the new paper is the most detailed human trial published so far.

Kaposi's sarcoma is the most common cancer to strike AIDS patients, but has posed serious treatment problems since the frail patients have trouble tolerating the toxic side effects of standard chemotherapy and interferon

alfa.

The hormone may prove to be a gentler alternative, Gill said. Unlike other Kaposi's treatments, the hormone leaves bone marrow function intact, and patients in the trial seemed to tolerate the treatments well, with only a few reports of some dizziness and nausea not unlike mild morning sickness.

Scientists do not know why the treatment works, Gill said. So far, they suspect the hormone seems to trigger the tumor cells' internal programs for self-destruction.

"Do we need new treatments for Kaposi's? Absolutely, yes," commented David Barr, director of treatment education at the activists group Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York.

He pointed out that although the early stage of the disease may not be life-threatening, the later stages are. "We welcome any promising new treatment," Barr said. ▼

Protease alert for PWAs with TB

by Mike Pezzella, UPI

Use of protease inhibitors, recently approved drugs that can increase the life of those infected with HIV for years, may have to be stopped for patients infected with tuberculosis, medical experts said Thursday, October 24.

Researchers for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta said that because the protease inhibitors interact with rifamycins derivatives, a mainstay in the treatment of TB, they recommend against using the two drugs together.

The rifamycins accelerate the body's absorption of the protease inhibitors and result in levels of the drug in the blood that are not potent enough to kill HIV. The protease inhibitors also slow the metabolism of rifamycins and can

cause toxic levels to accumulate in the blood.

Dr. Elsa Villarino, a CDC epidemiologist, said that the most hopeful course now is to attempt to adjust dosages to see if a compatible level for use of the two drugs can be found.

"Some of the drug companies are trying to find the right doses," Villarino said.

She is recommending that HIV patients be removed from protease inhibitors therapy for at least six months and be given treatment for TB. She and other researchers said that while the risk of taking people off protease inhibitors is not known, the risk of leaving TB untreated is known. A recent CDC study showed a less than three-month survival rate for HIV patients with untreated TB.

The CDC researchers also said that failure to treat TB infections

posed a threat to the general public, as well as to the infected person.

The CDC offered three untested options to doctors treating TB-infected HIV patients. The first was to stop protease inhibitors, while giving a six-month TB treatment with rifampin and using AZT and other HIV treatments. The second is to use a four-drug anti-TB cocktail that includes rifampin for two months, and then restart the protease inhibitor doses while using anti-TB drugs other than rifampin. Number three is to continue protease inhibitors and add a four-drug anti-TB combination that does not include rifampin.

The CDC cautioned that none of the options have been studied in large clinical trials, and that doctors had to closely monitor patients and modify treatment on a case-by-case basis. ▼

Newer protease nears market

United Press International

Agouron Pharmaceuticals announced Thursday, October 24 it will ask the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to approve its protease inhibitor Viracept for treatment of HIV saying it is "strongly encouraged" by tests.

The company said it will make the submission to the FDA no later than the end of the first

quarter. It has been testing Viracept since February 1996 in three clinical trials, involving a total of more than 700 subjects, and said the tests show a decrease in plasma HIV levels and gains in T-cells during the first four months of treatment in these six-month studies.

It plans to make detailed results from the trials within the next few months.

Peter Johnson, president and chief executive officer, said he was

"strongly encouraged" by the preliminary results. "However, we are anxious to remind all those interested in Viracept that there can be no assurance that any such approval from FDA will be forthcoming."

Viracept is being developed by Agouron in collaboration with the pharmaceutical division of Japan Tobacco Inc. Agouron stock climbed \$4.50 to \$54.25 a share in Nasdaq trading the day of the announcement. ▼

UCSF docs: Depression linked to HIV deaths

by Lidia Wasowicz,
UPI Science Writer

Depression can turn killer among gay and bisexual men afflicted with HIV, University of California, San Francisco researchers said Monday, October 28.

In the first study to measure the effect of chronic depression throughout the course of the deadly disease among this group, the scientists noted that past research has linked the mental disorder with higher mortality in the general population and patients with other chronic diseases.

"This, however, is the first time this relationship has been documented in people with HIV infection," said lead study author Tracy Mayne, researcher at the UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention studies (CAPS). "The finding is important because depression is treatable, even among those with advanced AIDS."

Reporting in *The Archives of Internal Medicine*, the investigators noted previous research has looked at depression solely at the start of the study — rather than throughout the progression of the disease — with inconclusive results.

In the latest eight-year analysis of 405 men between the ages of 25 and 54 from the ongoing San Francisco Men's Health Study, the investigators found the greater the depression reported by the subject, the greater his risk of death, said study co-author Eric Vittinghoff.

Depression — defined by such characteristics as loss of appetite, sleep disorders, and fatigue, as well as "feeling depressed, sad, or lonely" — was reported by 230, or



Higher mortality: Depression and AIDS can be a lethal combination.

58 percent, of the men at least once during the study.

For a man with an elevated depression score at every phase of the study, the risk of mortality jumped to 1.67 times that of a man free of depression, said study co-author Margaret Chesney.

"The association between depression and mortality in this study is independent of physiological and clinical measures of HIV disease progression, such as CD-4 counts," Mayne said.

"These results suggest that depression affects mortality in ways other than direct physiologic channels."

The link could be explained, in part, by behaviors associated with depression — such as increased substance abuse, smoking, and risky sexual behavior — all of

which can speed death's arrival, said study co-author CAPS director Thomas Coates.

"Depressed people also tend to adhere less to medical regimes, increasing their risk of disease progression and, in the case of HIV, death," said study co-author Donald Barrett. "Regardless of the mechanism, physicians must become more aware of depression among those infected with HIV."

Thalidomide study for wasting completed

PRNewswire

Celgene Corporation announced successful completion of its pivotal Phase II/III clinical trial of Synovir (thalidomide) for severe weight loss associated with HIV infection. The company anticipates that it will announce results of the trial early in the first quarter of 1997, followed shortly by submission of a New Drug Application (NDA). The approximately 100,000 patients who suffer from AIDS-related weight loss would be candidates for therapy with Synovir.

The trial utilized a number of clinical sites, including San Francisco General Hospital, Kaiser Permanente (San Francisco), The Rockefeller University, and St. Michaels Hospital in Newark, NJ. Sixty-five patients completed the placebo-controlled study, which evaluated the effect of different doses of Synovir on the patients' weight as a percentage of their baseline weight.

Enrollment in the trial was re-

stricted to patients who are infected with HIV and who had lost ten percent or more of their baseline weight in the preceding six months. Evaluation of the study will include a review of patients' response to a 12-week course of Synovir therapy.

The company also noted that approximately 80% of the patients completing the pivotal trial elected to participate in an open label compassionate use follow-on program.

"The trial was completed on schedule, and we appreciate the guidance and support of our chief investigators, the participating medical institutions, as well as that of the Food and Drug Administration," said John Jackson, Chairman and CEO of Celgene.

In October 1995, Celgene announced that the Food and Drug Administration had approved its request to authorize expanded access of Synovir, broadening the drug's availability. The expanded access program complemented the Phase II/III clinical trial enrollment.

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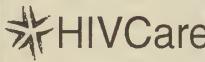
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Woman who gets her pot from the government stumps for 215

by Cynthia Laird

A Florida woman who became the nation's third recipient of medical marijuana through the federal government was in the East Bay on Saturday, October 26 to promote state Proposition 215. She said it's critical the initiative be approved by voters when they go to the polls on Tuesday, November 5.

Elvy Musikka, who lives in Hollywood, Florida and suffers from glaucoma, began getting pot from the United States government in October 1988. She is currently one of only eight patients in the country who can legally get marijuana. The drug comes in a prescription bottle with a typed description, just like any other pharmaceutical.

"The last eight years I've received medical marijuana from the government, but I've been smoking it for 20 years," Musikka told the B.A.R. in an interview at the Hayward Hempery, an East Bay store that sells books and clothes related to cannabis. "The last six weeks I've been working with Proposition 215. Californians have a real chance to send a message to the White House."

Her prescription is written about every three months, she said, and the pre-rolled Mexican marijuana is sent to her through

the University of Mississippi. It's rolled with cigarette machines, but she often takes them apart because the joints contain seeds and stems.

"It's best to take it apart and clean it out and re-roll it," Musikka said. "It's been freeze-dried and burns like sawdust."

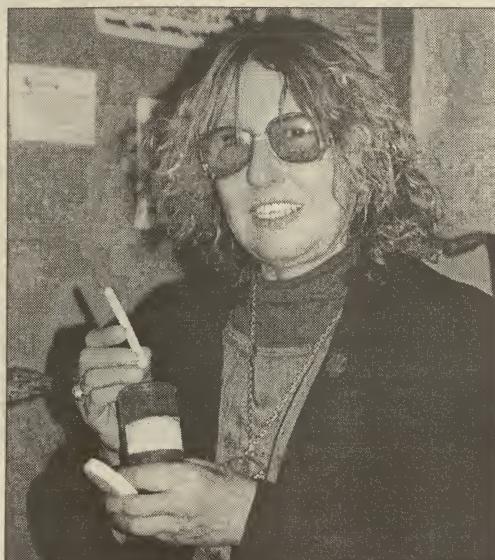
Musikka, who said she is in her 50s, was born with congenital cataracts, and said she lost most of the vision in her left eye due to cataracts surgeries that were quite complex in the 1950s. The marijuana, she added, has maintained her interocular pressures and helped improve her sight to the point that today, she can even see stars. She is, however, legally blind.

Musikka lost all sight in her right eye in 1987 due to what she described as "useless surgeries."

Eye shots

"I was a guinea pig for all experimental procedures," Musikka said. "One of those surgeries included 21 shots directly into my right eye. It was foolish to continue with surgeries that offered less and less chance for correction while the scar tissue built and deprived me of more and more sight in my right eye."

She said that it was not easy to get medical marijuana through the federal government. In August 1988, she faced felony criminal



ical history as far back as 1977," Musikka said, adding her first surgery in 1977 offered only a 30 percent chance for vision improvement.

About three weeks after her trial, Frances L. Young, who was the chief administrative law judge for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), announced that after reviewing two years of testimony and years of written history regarding marijuana, he had concluded that marijuana in its natural form is one of the most benign, therapeutic, active substances known to humankind.

Musikka said she's traveled across the country to speak out in support of medical marijuana for patients. She never realized just how many people could benefit from the drug. Musikka said there are 49 million disabled Americans in the U.S. and that medical marijuana would bring "great relief" to many of them.

"We have to stop the suffering, and we can do that with Proposition 215," Musikka said.

State polls have recently shown that California voters support the measure by nearly 2 to 1. ▼

Elvy Musikka: "Californians have a real chance to send a message to the White House."

charges in connection with using marijuana. Testimony from Dr. Paul Palmberg, a renowned ophthalmologist, was of particular interest to Judge Mark E. Polen, in that Palmberg's testimony was

fully backed by the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, a research center for the University of Miami, Musikka said.

"They [university doctors] have been documenting my med-

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HIV Council

◀ page 25

issue, including written materials council members have submitted and other records, she has determined the AIDS Office co-chair should stay.

"Especially during these difficult times for resource allocation deliberation, it would not be in the council's best interest to abandon a structure that fundamentally reflects a mutual responsibility and vital partnership between the Department of Public Health and the planning council," Hernandez said in her letter.

Member Tom Calvane said he didn't know why Hernandez didn't respond to the council earlier, as she's known of the issue for over a year.

"I'm disturbed Dr. Hernandez waited until now to write. She's been aware. It's a shame she's not here," Calvane said. "I've heard discussions about the practical, but I haven't heard the reason the AIDS Office sits in a co-chair seat. For me, it's a really simple issue, a return to the legislative spirit of CARE, a balance between the council and the AIDS Office."

Pat Christen, a council member and executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, opposed eliminating the AIDS Office co-chair. She did say Carter raised a legitimate concern about Nickens using "we" or "us." However, Christen maintained the council's other two co-chairs should take more initiative.

"Our co-chairs historically have deferred to the AIDS Office co-chair," she said.

Diane Jones, another newly appointed member, agreed. "The [other] co-chairs really have to step up to the plate. I'm not real-

ly pleased to see a lot of direction coming from the AIDS Office, but I don't think that will be fixed by removing the AIDS Office from co-chair."

Thomas Sinclair said he was bothered by the "we" and "them" theme of the discussion, or "us" against the AIDS Office.

"The news media [said] there's a terrible relationship between the council and the AIDS Office. That's news to me," Sinclair said.

Wasting time

What was particularly disturbing to some council members was the amount of time the debate consumed, when the council's agenda was far from finished. The council is set to begin its prioritization process for an expected \$33 million in federal Ryan White CARE funds for 1997-98, and has been having longer meetings in an effort to gather information about current council-funded services, including emerging medical therapies, a needs assessment survey, needs of dually and triply diagnosed persons, housing updates, and other topics. Monday's meeting was even longer than usual.

"We should look at the structure after prioritization," said newly appointed council member Mark Serpas. "This is not the time. We have to make decisions regarding cutting some funds," since the council's allocation for 1997-98 is as much as \$5 million less than for 1996-97.

The planning council's next meeting is Monday, November 4 beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, located at 10 United Nations Plaza at Seventh and Market streets. ▼

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Brian D. Casey
Sept. 13, 1958 - Oct. 20, 1996



Brian left his body Sunday, October 20, after fighting 25 years of leukemia and AIDS. He stretched toward enlightenment peacefully, at home, surrounded by music, incense, his art, children, soulmate Dave Schwartz and devoted companions Bill, Bob and John Harrison.

In his brief but full life, Brian touched many whose lives were enriched by his compassion and who mourn his loss. He wrote, "Love, emotional but not physical, for all beings is the ideal I continue to strive for. I wonder if I am worthy of the goal. At times I know I am not, but I continue to strive toward enlightenment – surrendering to those who have traveled this journey before me, seeking out my own path with their insights as my guide."

Brian's friends have said he was a gentle soul, full of laughter, whose smile will always be remembered; his colors were bold, bold mosaics. He was tenacious, beautiful, brown-eyed, sarcastic, unflinching, honest, demanding, loving, forgiving and mischievous.

On your way for your work is done. You did it, sweetheart – three squeezes! At last, you are free.

Memorial Mass Friday, November 1, 7:30 p.m., St. Dominic's Church (Bush and Steiner). All are welcome.

Dwight Dougherty
1945 – 1996


Dwight Dougherty died October 7 in San Francisco after a long struggle with AIDS. Dwight was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1945 and grew up there. In 1962, he joined the U.S. Army and served for 10 years, including two years in Vietnam. During that time, he was married and had two children.

In 1976, after coming out in Charleston, S.C., Dwight moved to SF. In recent years, despite illness, he studied landscape architecture at City College. He was devoted to gardening and to his two cats, Hermoine and Grunt.

Dwight is survived by two children and one grandchild. Thanks to Home Health Nurses and Coming Home Hospice.

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Robert J. Dutko
Jan. 28, 1949 – June 11, 1996



Bob left this world to live forever with his God on the evening of June 11. With him at the Zen Hospice when he departed were his sisters, Mary Ann and Bernie, and his nephews, Ken and John. He also leaves his loving mother, Mary; brother, Richard; sister, Kathleen; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Bob loved celebrating Christmas, the Forty-Niners, greeting people at church, stuffed cabbage and his mom's desserts. He'll be missed by all of us who remember, but he stays with us in our hearts.

James Bradley Hoyes
May 18, 1961 – Oct. 8, 1996



Peacefully, Jim passed away in his sleep at home on October 8.

He leaves behind the family he loved and too many friends to possibly count, because everyone who met Jim loved him.

Born in Norwalk, Conn., Jim moved to the Bay Area with his family in 1977.

Jim's passion for gardening had been his mainstay for several years, although he could do just about anything with his mind and hands.

Jim, we will all miss your boyish sense of humor, your gentleness, and your unmatched ability to decorate a Christmas tree!

You loved all the outdoors, camping, swimming and travel. You had great taste in music and good food, especially desserts, and were always eager to share your newest discoveries. Your consideration of others, creativity and generosity will never be forgotten.

These are just a few of the things that make us so lucky to have been a part of your life.

A celebration of Jim's life will be held at a later date. For information, please call Hal at 387-2797 or Jay at 550-0117.

Jim, we love you and miss you.

Michael Patrick Kelly
Sept. 3, 1948 – Sept. 21, 1996

On Saturday, September 21, Michael Patrick Kelly, 48, formerly of Sacramento, passed peacefully at Harmony Hospice in San Diego, Calif. Michael was a graduate of Wright State University and Sacramento State College, and had taught elementary school for 18 years locally. He is survived by his mother, sisters, brothers and many loving friends. Mike especially loved his dogs, Max and Pumpkin.

Mike was active in many organizations. His love of life, people, history, music, the arts and literature – but most of all his family – reflected the love we all felt for him. The friends he made in Sacramento through his teaching, volunteering and church meant so much to him. Mike enjoyed teaching at James Marshall and Theodore Judah. His respect for fellow teachers increased his inspiration for his students. Mike gave freely of his time to Sacramento AIDS Foundation and Being Alive in San Diego. In lieu of flowers, contributions

may be made to SAE, "Hand to Hand" or Being Alive, 3960 Park Blvd., San Diego 92103.

After his funeral on September 27, Mike was buried in Dayton, Ohio. On Sunday, November 10, at 3 p.m., a celebration of his life will be held at Christ Unity Church, 9249 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento.

William C. Reid
May 15, 1937 – Oct. 17, 1996



William C. Reid died peacefully October 17 at age 59, surrounded by loving energy at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco. He was the victim of a massive brain hemorrhage on October 1, never regaining consciousness. He is survived by soulmate and partner David Carter.

Bill (Sonny) was a well-respected motion picture and Broadway theatre historian, world traveler, gourmet cook and artist. Bill's love for the theatre began while helping his grandmother clean theatres as a small child. He became an avid autograph hound in the '50s, collecting hundreds of autographs of celebrities, leading to a thirst for facts and trivia concerning all genre of the performing arts. His interest continued to grow until his death.

Bill was born in Jersey City, N.J. His loving playfulness will be missed by many, especially David. A memorial service will be held at a later date at his Boyes Hot Springs home he loved so much.

Luciano L. Reynoso
Jan. 7, 1949 – Oct. 21, 1996


Nearly 20 years after leaving his Mexican homeland and moving to San Francisco, Luciano made the return trip to Acapulco and died there on October 21. The circle was complete, and it was time for Lucio to explore places even further away from home.

Lulu was a man of paradoxes: Strong yet gentle, shy yet active, determined yet humble, generous yet guarded, humorous yet melancholic, brave yet hesitant. But never was he mean, never abusive, never hateful. Simply a rare and beautiful bird. Now he's flying high, and he has carried a part of each of us along with him.

A celebration of Lucio's new life will take place on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m. at 1165 Treat Ave., SF. Memorials to honor him may be sent to "Marty's Place," the AIDS residence he lived in during his last months in San Francisco: c/o Aurora-Dawn Foundation, P.O. Box 401076, SF, CA 94140.

Lloyd Spitz
July 12, 1952 – Oct. 6, 1996

Lloyd Spitz died peacefully at his home in San Mateo on Sunday evening, October 6, following a valiant battle with AIDS. He is survived by his extended family and many friends, as well as by his parents, Miriam and Mitchell Spitz.

Friends are invited to a remembrance gathering on November 16; please call 415/572-9702 for details.

Contributions in Lloyd's honor may be made to ELLIPSE Peninsula AIDS Services, 173 South Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94403, where Lloyd served as acting president and board member.



'Welfare reform' may cut off benefits for PWAs

by Dennis Conkin

AIDS public policy experts express concern that recent federal welfare reform legislation will have an adverse impact on people with AIDS who have substance abuse problems and find themselves with state or federal felony drug convictions.

The legislation, which became effective October 1 upon President Bill Clinton's signature, mandates that any person convicted of a felony offense for drug

possession, use, or distribution will be excluded from receiving federal welfare benefits and food stamps — permanently — according to AIDS Project of the East Bay policy expert Martin Martinez.

The legislation is not retroactive, and affects individuals who are convicted of felony drug offenses after October 1, Martinez said.

Under the terms of the legislation, women who receive Aid to Families With Dependent Children will lose the benefits.

Although Martinez said that each state may pass laws exempting its residents from the provisions of the welfare reform legislation, it is unlikely that California will enact such exemptions.

"This reform provision will hit persons with AIDS hard," Martinez said. "Many persons self-medicate with drugs such as marijuana. In addition, many persons have contracted AIDS through IV drug use and are unable or unwilling to stop injecting," he said.

Complicating the situation for many APEB clients is Alameda

County's plan for next year, to cut the county's cash general assistance welfare benefits to just \$600 a year — or \$200 a month for a single three-month period — which could force needy clients into a vicious cycle of relapse into IV heroin, methamphetamine, and other injection drug use; criminal activity to support their habits; and then the loss of food stamps and other welfare benefits upon felony conviction.

Double whammy

The new welfare laws come as an estimated 3,000 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients with AIDS/HIV face the loss of their monthly checks in January, because another new federal law ends such benefits for people who receive them due to primary substance abuse diagnoses.

Martinez said that most APEB clients receive SSI not because of HIV or AIDS diagnoses, but because they have substance abuse diagnoses.

"We are really anxious," Martinez told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "All of this is going to be felt next year. Eighty percent of our clients are on SSI, and 70 percent have substance abuse diagnoses. Our big fear is that people are going to be cut off SSI and there will be a ripple effect. People are going to get drug convictions and not be eligible for any welfare."

San Francisco AIDS Foundation program director Rene Durazzo told the *Bay Area Reporter* that SFAF shared many of Martinez's concerns.

Durazzo said that many foundation clients have injection substance abuse problems, and that many also have criminal justice backgrounds and are frequently referred by state correctional programs.

Many of SFAF's client services efforts are to stabilize HIV-positive clients, by ensuring that basic human needs are provided for.

"We have to be able to work with what clients need," Durazzo said. "But the more that clients are cut from programs that provide basic needs, the harder it is for people to pay attention to their HIV concerns. They get buried under all these other issues."

Durazzo said that the agency is reviewing the new law, and that the full extent of the law's potential impact on clients has not yet been assessed by local AIDS service providers.

Although the federal law has passed, neither the state of California nor the city's Department of Human Services have yet enacted state regulations pursuant to its enforcement.

Such regulations will almost certainly be the subject of litigation by welfare reform activists. ▼

'Immigration reform' makes things harder for gays, PWAs

by Dennis Conkin

A recent immigration reform measure requires that all immigrants who have lived for a year or more in the United States and who intend to seek political asylum must apply by April 1, 1997, or they will be barred from such protection. The measure also puts an end to hardship exceptions that once allowed lesbians, gays, and people with HIV to legally immigrate to the United States.

The measure, which becomes effective in April, makes no special mention of sexual orientation or HIV status, but according to experts it will have an adverse effect on gays and lesbians and people with HIV.

"The impact of the law on gay, lesbian, and HIV-positive immigrants is absolutely devastating," said attorney Robert Jobe at a Thursday, October 17 press conference about the reform measure.

The measure ends the hardship exception for the applying immigrant, and instead requires a showing of "exceptional and extremely unusual hardship" to the immigrant's family: spouse, parents, or children who are lawful residents or citizens of the United States.

Before the law was changed, applicants threatened with deportation who had resided in the country for seven years could demonstrate to the court that they were of good moral character and prove they would suffer hardship if deported because of their illegal immigration status.

Because the law doesn't recognize gay couples as spouses — and because most lesbian and gay couples do not have children — the elimination of the exception "effectively prevents any gay immigrant from legalizing their status," said Shannon Minter, coordinator of the local Lesbian and Gay Rights Immigration Task Force.

According to the new law, undocumented residents who have lived in the United States longer than six months will be unable to legalize their status until they have

lived outside the country for three years. If the undocumented resident has lived in the U.S. for a year, they will be barred from legalizing their status until they have lived outside the country for ten years. Waivers are available, but only if the immigrant has a spouse or child who is a U.S. citizen.

The April 1, 1997 timeline for asylum applicants will be hard for many lesbian and gay immigrants eligible for protection, because such refugees do not generally apply for asylum within a year



Robert Jobe: "The impact of the law on gay, lesbian and HIV-positive immigrants is absolutely devastating."

after their arrival, according to International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission Program Associate Kagenta Murungi.

"The draconian proposals of this new legislation are mean-spirited and unnecessary," Murungi told the *Bay Area Reporter*. She said the law effectively "Balkanizes a new underclass of people in this country without any recourse." ▼

Low income immigrants who are HIV-positive can receive free legal assistance through the San Francisco Bar Association HIV Immigration Assistance Project at (415) 267-0795. Minter and The

Lesbian and Gay Immigration Task Force can be reached through the National Center on Lesbian Rights at (415) 392-6297. IGLHRC can be reached at 255-8680. Jobe can be reached at (415) 956-5513.

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It's a ball! It's a racket! It's racquetball!

by Jim Provenzano

You are boxed into a room with high walls. The ball travels from 50 to 100 miles per hour. It is small and hard. Sometimes, it is traveling toward your face. Welcome to Racquetball. Look out.

I am reminded of Peter Brooks's staging of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* whenever I see a racquetball court. I am amazed by the pure theatricality of two people bouncing around inside a white-walled room to hit a ball that will bounce against them. Ah, the sheer velocity of it all. I can't help but imagine some Rod Serling narrator peeking over the top of the court. That's exactly how fencing used to be viewed, as in etchings of Renaissance fencing matches.

Now though, or at least for a while, racquetball has taken on a sort of yuppie context that deserves to be shaken off. Still, I can't help but imagine stock traders toweling off, gulping a weight gainer drink and putting on Paco Rabane while answering their cell phones.

Racquetball started getting popular around the Bay Area around 1986, says Wref Fulton, who organizes Gay and Lesbian Racquetball. Fulton also owns Petpourri, the friendly pet supplies store with three locations to serve you. Fulton sponsors the Petpourri Women's Softball team, which did quite well down in San Diego a few weeks back.

But back to those smaller, tighter, enclosed sports. "The first racquetball club began in 1982 in San Francisco," said Fulton. Since then, in between other activities, he's been developing his technique and working with other groups at tournaments. Nationally, about 35 to 40 other groups get together.

Wref lobbied to get the sport included in the Gay Games, and it seems like his enthusiasm has paid off. In the 1990 Gay Games in Vancouver, Fulton received a silver medal in singles and doubles. Racquetball was very popu-

lar at the last Gay Games, where all of its events sold out.

Very physical

Anywhere from five to ten people will show up on a given Saturday morning. Practices are in South San Francisco. In levels from beginner to neo-pro, games continue throughout the morning.

"Racquetball's a very physical sport," said Fulton. "You're really moving quite a bit." After working

out in other ways, Fulton found racquetball is the best overall workout. "You get a good mental and physical workout," he said of the intense concentration required to hit, serve, whack, and catch the ball.

"You definitely need to stretch out a lot beforehand," he advised. He also said that knee placement and good balance help eliminate injuries. Eye-guards, of course, are required,

and some may choose kneepads, although well-tractioned footwear might help prevent spills. Fulton has played at tournaments around the Bay Area, and hopes more novice and returning racquetballers can stop in and play. ▼



Everything de Young is old again:

'Conservator of multi-ethnic heritage' turns to voters for help

by Dennis Conkin

A\$73.3 million general obligation bond measure to bring the de Young Museum up to seismic codes and expand its capacity to provide visitor and educational services and increase exhibit space in Golden Gate Park will go before voters on Tuesday, November 5.

The proposal also includes an

\$11.5 million underground parking facility, which will be paid for in private contributions by supporters who have pledged to raise over \$44 million for the project.

The measure is unanimously endorsed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

"For more than 100 years, the de Young Museum has been the educator of our children, the conservator of our multi-ethnic heritage, and the home of the West

Coast's premiere collection of American Art," Supervisor Kevin Shelley said when the board approved the measure last June. "This bond will assure the de Young's continued contributions to our community for the next century."

According to the proponents of the measure, four of the eight buildings making up the current de Young museum have the worst possible earthquake safety ratings — such that the buildings will almost certainly partially or completely collapse during a severe earthquake.

A new design will take up less space, fit environmentally into the park setting, and return almost two acres of land to open space in the park, supporters say.

The proposed underground parking facility would be entered from outside the park at 10th Av-

ene and Fulton, remove an estimated 300 parked cars from surrounding streets, and remove the existing above-ground parking lot.

Removal of the surface parking lot and demolition of the Asian Art Museum, when that museum moves to its new Civic Center location, will create an estimated 65,000 feet.

If approved by voters, planning (including an environmental impact report) would begin in 1997. In the year 2000, the de Young would be briefly closed, and the permanent collection moved to the current site of the Asian Art Museum. The Museum would take an estimated three years for construction.

Proposition B is also supported by the Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, which operates the de Young Museum. ▼

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Candidates

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Brown said, "I support additional media and outreach campaigns to achieve this goal. We should look into online methods to compile a comprehensive list of organizations, groups, and services available to our community."

Joe Konopka, president of Residents Against Drugs (RAD), said no one is taking full advantage because there aren't enough services.

"Behind drugs and AIDS, domestic violence is the third largest health issue facing gay men today. ... As for substance abuse, there is a lot of speed in the gay and lesbian community, especially in people with AIDS. One of the first symptoms of HIV is fatigue, hence the increase in speed," Konopka said.

Incumbent Supervisor **Sue Bierman** said, "The city could make better efforts in outreach, especially towards gay and lesbian youth. Realization of the proposed gay community center would be one great way of increasing communication."

O'Hearn agreed that the community center could provide a central location for disseminating information.

St. James, a member of the city's Drug Abuse Advisory

Board, strongly supports peer-based prevention programs, and said they should be implemented in each neighborhood.

Rosemond maintains that if half of the dollars spent on drug busts were put into treatment and education efforts, drug use could be dramatically reduced.

Rubber barons

Candidates also addressed the free distribution of condoms by the DPH to gay bars in the Castro and South of Market areas, and how to maintain such a program.

Kaufman suggested starting a volunteer program modeled on Project Open Hand that could deliver condoms to various locations.

Keyes said he's opposed to a free condom distribution program.

Yee supports free condom distribution in the Castro and South of Market areas and said "a specific program with specific goals and evaluation monitoring to track its effectiveness should be developed."

Rosales asked what the AIDS Office and 100 community-based organizations have been doing for the last 12 years. "Given the millions of dollars they spend, they should be able to have such a program in place."

Durcanin maintains that the private sector should come up with a plan. ▼

ENDORSEMENTS

Endorsements

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firm. We realize that there are some unscrupulous attorneys as well as some frivolous lawsuits, but by and large they are in the minority. Don't surrender your rights to go after large businesses or their boards. Remember, it is you and your attorney who work out what percentage you will pay. The attorney takes the risk and assumes all costs. Protect yourself, vote YES on Prop. 207.

PROPOSITION 208 – VOTE YES CAMPAIGN REFORM

There are two competing measures on this ballot for campaign reform. Both have merit, but of the two we prefer this one. This one prohibits lobbyists from contributing to statewide candidates. It also has incentives for voluntary spending limits. We need some reform in campaign spending for state of fices. Vote YES on Prop. 208.

PROPOSITION 209 – VOTE NO! ANTI-AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The granddaddy of all hate bills ever put before the electorate. As we have stated in several editorials, articles, and opinion pieces, this bill is pure bigotry. Let's not step back in time to racial and

ethical injustice. This hateful bill could affect gays and lesbians profoundly. Let's not give up what we have fought so hard to attain. Remember, we don't have the whole loaf yet, but let's not give up the crumbs we have now. Please vote NO on Prop. 209.

PROPOSITION 210 – VOTE YES MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Increases the minimum wage for all industries to \$5.00 per hour on March 1, 1997 and then to \$5.75 per hour on March 1, 1998. California is one of the most expensive states in which to live, and \$5.00 an hour equates to \$200.00 for a 40-hour week. Who can live on this? It's not enough, but it is a start in the right direction. The naysayers state that this can cause inflation, we say bullshit! Vote YES on Prop. 210.

PROPOSITION 211 – VOTE YES SECURITIES FRAUD

Like Prop. 207, this proposition would bar the state Legislature from imposing limits on attorneys' contingency fees. All too frequently we read articles in which the retired or pensioners are scammed out of their life-savings or retirement funds. The perpetrators of these scams usually get off with a slap on the wrist. Let's help stop these crimes and vote YES on Prop. 211.

PROPOSITION 212 – VOTE NO CAMPAIGN REFORM

We believe that Prop. 208 is a start in the right direction and support it in favor of this one. Vote NO on Prop. 212.

PROPOSITION 213 – VOTE NO UNINSURED MOTORISTS

This is an insidious proposition that would eliminate the legal rights of anyone driving an uninsured vehicle. This could mean you if you borrowed a friend's uninsured vehicle and had a minor accident on an errand to the grocery store. Under current law, the person at fault for an accident is responsible for damages. Under Prop. 213, the person who caused the accident could attempt to avoid paying damages by claiming that the person in the uninsured vehicle was driving illegally. As most people who drive uninsured vehicles in this state are poor, immigrants, or persons of color, this law is aimed at them. It does not address real criminal issues like drunk drivers or illegal speeders. Simply put, it is another proposition that is full of bigotry and racism. Vote NO on Prop. 213.

PROPOSITION 214 – VOTE NO HMO REGULATION

We need some regulation in the health care industry, but we

don't believe that either this proposition or Prop. 216 addresses germane issues fully. Might we suggest that the makers of both of these propositions get together and give us a more definitive regulation package. Vote NO on Prop. 214.

PROPOSITION 215 – VOTE YES MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Again, we have addressed this issue in many editorials and articles. The state Legislature has passed this bill three times, only to have it vetoed by our beloved chief bigot, Governor Wilson. This is not legalizing drug use. It would simply allow licensed doctors to prescribe medical marijuana for many patients suffering from the effects of severe illnesses, from AIDS to various forms of cancer. Medical marijuana would be dispensed by licensed pharmacists upon legal prescription. Let's show the governor that we care about the physical suffering of people. Vote YES on Prop. 215.

PROPOSITION 216 – VOTE NO HEALTH CARE REGULATION

As stated earlier, we believe that this is a band-aid approach to some very serious problems in the health care industry. Let's wait for something better. Vote NO on Prop. 216.

PROPOSITION 217 – VOTE YES TOP INCOME BRACKET

Simply put, this is not a tax increase; it just rescinds a tax break for 1% of Californians in the top earnings bracket. Another one of Governor Wilson's perks to his rich bankers. Vote YES on Prop. 217.

PROPOSITION 218 – VOTE NO MAJORITY VOTE ON TAXES

All this measure would do is further cripple local governments. This proposition is brought to us by the same folks who gave us Prop. B. It would further erode our public services. The only real beneficiaries of this measure are landlords and big businesses. We urge a NO vote on Prop. 218.

These endorsements are submitted to you with the hope that we can give you clear explanations of some very complicated issues on our ballot. They are recommendations for readers with busy lives who may not have the time to study their voters' guide books fully. *Make up your own mind when you vote – but we stress the fact that you must vote to protect yourself.* ▼

Editorial endorsement board:
Bob Ross, Mike Salinas, Wayne Friday, Dennis Conkin, Cynthia Laird.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208434

The following person(s) are doing business as HAN BAT KOREAN RESTAURANT, 2001 Taraval St., San Francisco, CA 94116; Dong Joo Lee, 2150 41st Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 8, 1996. This business is conducted by husband and wife. Signed Dong Joo Lee. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 8, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 207529

The following person(s) are doing business as HEALING ALTERNATIVES FOUNDATION, 1748 Market St. #205, San Francisco, CA 94102; Healing Alternatives Foundation (California) 1748 Market St. #205, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 3, 1996. This business is conducted by a non-profit corporation. Signed Matthew Sharp. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Sept. 3, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208326

The following person(s) are doing business as NEW TRENDS, 16 Lexington, San Francisco, CA 94110; Richard Kachmar, 16 Lexington, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Richard Kachmar. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 3, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208311

The following person(s) are doing business as SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S INVESTMENT CLUB, 244 Richland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110; John Ozella 4076 17th St. #508, San Francisco, CA 94114; John Welch, 275 Grand View #204, San Francisco, CA 94110; Raymond Hernandez, 244 Richland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 1, 1996. This business is conducted by a general

partnership. Signed Raymond Hernandez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 2, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 207939

The following person(s) are doing business as WEB VIDEO AND ELECTRONICS, 66 Cleary Court #205, San Francisco, CA 94109; Sonia Mirna Ramirez, 66 Cleary Court #205, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 9, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Sonia Mirna Ramirez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Sept. 18, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208254

The following person(s) are doing business as MATERIAL CULTURE, Two Henry Adams St. San Francisco, CA 94103; Richard Habib, 27 Camino de Herrero, San Anselmo, CA 94960. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Richard Habib. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 1, 1996. Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208469

The following person(s) are doing business as THE ARC SAN FRANCISCO, 2- THE BASKET CASE, 1500 Howard St., The Arc San Francisco, CA 1500 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103-2525. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 13, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Tom Christian, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 7, 1996. Oct 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208589

The following person(s) are doing business as HOLSUM MARKET, 4686 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94114; Faisal H. Theebel, 1527 10th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 15, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Faisal Theebel. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 15, 1996. Oct 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208670

The following person(s) are doing business as MACK TEAM REGIME, 2311 Bourdon Ct., South San Francisco, CA 94080; Vinson E. Johnson, 2311 Bourdon Ct., South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 18, 1996.

LEGAL NOTICES

SOI DHS-114:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SF DHS) announces its intent to seek proposals from organizations interested in contracting to provide emergency shelter, case management, and support services to homeless families and pregnant women. Contract terms: 12/1/96-6/30/97; SOI issued 10/4, due 11/1, by 2:00 p.m.;

Contact: Mr. Buick, P.O. Box 7988

San Francisco, CA 94120

(415) 557-6335

on October 18, 1996.
Oct 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208410

The following person(s) are doing business as PHOTOGRAPHY ETC., 508A 14th St. San Francisco, CA 94103; Gregory Boyd, 508A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Gregory Boyd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 7, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208774

The following person(s) are doing business as MODERN AUTO TOWING, 5662 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112; Paul Samson, 906 Skyline Dr., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Paul Samson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 10, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208469

The following person(s) are doing business as CAFE "INTO", 1460 A Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 94115; Kang Sung Ung, 855 McAllister St. #G, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Kang Sung Ung. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 18, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208415

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BRIDGE IN GUERNVILLE, 21100 Hwy 1, Guerneville, CA 95446. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Frank Howard Allen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 1, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

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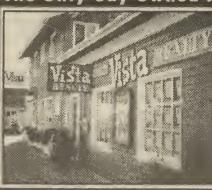
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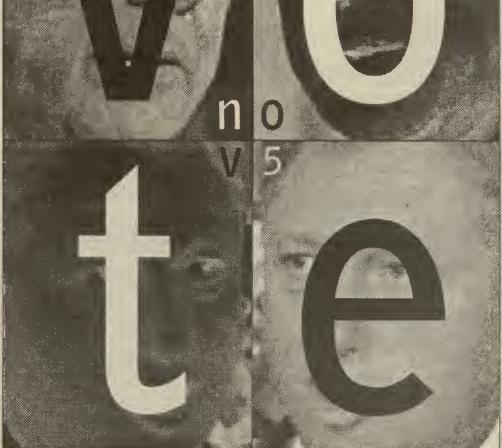
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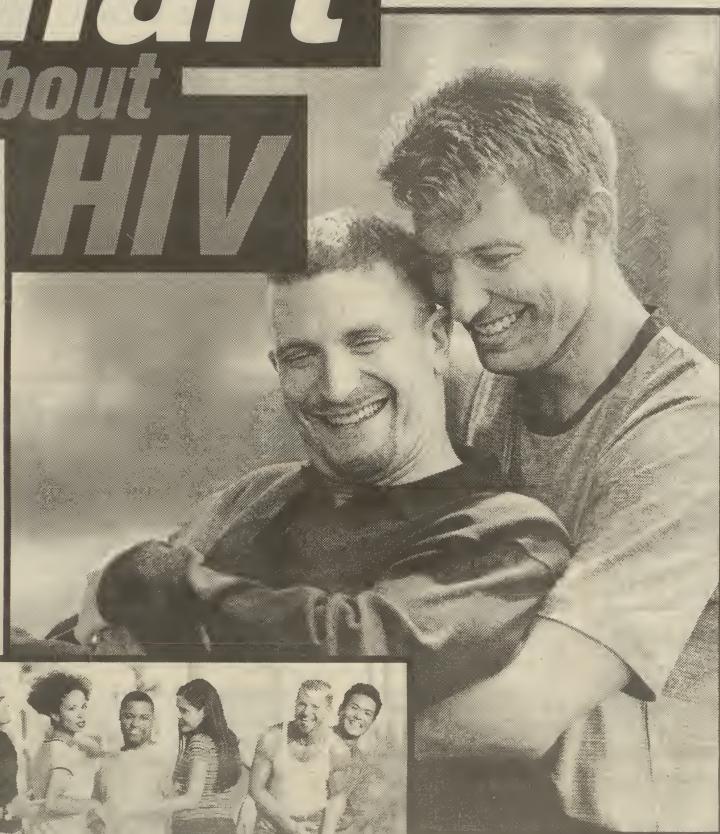
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DTP134R0

OCTOBER 1996

Tennessee Williams' only laugher, The Rose Tattoo, found its inspiration in the love of a good man.

page 46

Jeanne Moreau gets on Gary Morris' nerves with The Proprietor.

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Deborah Peifer talks with masters of mystery Michael Nava and Katherine V. Forrest.

page 52



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 44 • 31 October 1996

Luhrmann's 'Romeo & Juliet': contemporary yet ageless

Baz Luhrmann's new film has the cocky title *William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet*. Don't believe it. It's Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo & Juliet* all the way. And it's a blast, full of sound and fury, richly operatic visuals, sex, violence, and throbbing music. Maybe because he's still relatively young, or because he's a creative theater (his *Strictly Ballroom* began as a stage play) and opera (*La Bohème*) director, or possibly because he has one of the ripest gay sensibilities working in the classics today, Luhrmann has succeeded at what Francis Ford Coppola feebly attempted in *Bram Stoker's Dracula* — he's made art out of kitsch.

Set in a fictional "Verona Beach" that appears to be near the Tijuana border, this contemporary version of Shakespeare's timeless love story sticks closely to the original plot,

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Harold Perrineau is Mercutio and Leonardo DiCaprio is Romeo in *William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet*.

Perfect pitch

by Stephanie von Buchau



Courtney Love and Madonna look-alikes in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*, Hollywood, MTV, 1996, by David LaChapelle.

Sex and wit

by John Blanco

Baby Jane?

Although most of his work is fashion and celebrity photography, David LaChapelle may be best known for a promo he shot for MTV, in which he envisioned the autumn years of Madonna and Courtney Love as a scene right out of *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* In the clip, which has been airing on the cable network throughout the past year, a wheelchair-bound, Gaultier-clad Madonna clone is verbally abused and served a large, twitching rat by a frowzy Love look-alike. A still from this hilarious spot is one of the highlights of *LaChapelle Land* (Simon & Schuster, \$50) a stunning collection of this photographer's work.

The 33-year-old LaChapelle's association with the music channel makes sense given that his photographs, which are loaded with color and movement, seem designed for the MTV generation. While flipping through *LaChapelle Land's* photos, culled from his work for *Details*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Face* and other publications, it's easy to experience visual overload. If the photographer doesn't feel there's enough going on in an individual image (and there always is), he'll frame it with a series of smaller, sometimes tenuously related images. There's no simplicity or subtlety in his work; there is, however, an abundance of style and wit.

There's also an unmistakable gay sensibility. It's particularly evident in a series of ads he shot for Diesel Jeans, the most famous of which is a homo-ized take on Eisenstaedt's famous photo of a couple smooching in celebration of the end of WWII. LaChapelle's picture looks like an authentically scratched and grainy newsreel image of a crowd welcoming home a shipload of enlisted men, until you notice the two brawny sailors kissing in the foreground. LaChapelle's hunks, ubiquitous in his Diesel ads, are as stylized as Bruce Weber's, but in a more humorous way; Weber's hardbodies look like mannequins, while LaChapelle's look like cartoons.

The Diesel ad is one of the few photographs in the book shot in black and white. Vibrant, highly-saturated color is a LaChapelle signature, as are salacious, elaborately-staged scenes. His photographs are

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Porn Star in Times Square, New York, Details, 1993, by David LaChapelle.

LaChapelle

◀ Arts cover

like Technicolor stills from Russ Meyer-inspired B-movies. Breasts are frequently bared, but, as with pectorals, always with a wink and a nudge. The book's best cheesecake shot is of Drew Barrymore, in a waitress getup, flashing a breast that looks very much like one of the dozens of maraschino cherry-topped grapefruit halves she's sur-

rounded by.

Sex, humor and camp are the key components of LaChapelle's aesthetic, and they come together especially well in his celebrity portraiture. As he states in the book's afterword, he isn't afraid to "go against what their publicist recommends" and fuck with a star's image during a shoot. Thus we get a photo of the late gangsta rapper Tupac Shakur looking almost cuddly in a bubble bath, and one of starlet-next-door Sandra Bul-

lock wearing very little while licking a giant ice sculpture. Sometimes, however, LaChapelle will just exaggerate what's already absurd or grotesque about a star, such as his shot of Tori Spelling in the back seat of a limo, McDonald's wrappers at her feet and an Evian bottle between her legs, giving her best wet-lipped, cow-eyed imitation of sensuality. Like the best of LaChapelle's work, it's a photo that is refreshingly satiric and perverse. ▼



David Bowie, Los Angeles, Details, 1995, by David LaChapelle.

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Changes

Change is both real and metaphorical in David Harrison's 'FTM'

by Linnea Due

San Francisco writer/performer David Harrison began taking notes for his 1994 play *FTM* nearly two years before he began his own transition from female to male. "I knew I was working on a play about gender," he told me in a recent interview, "but I didn't know what it would be."

At the time, Harrison was touring his first play, *Permission*, about his experiences as a dominatrix. "That play also dealt with gender. I dressed up very femme, very femme top. I'd go to sessions with a garter belt, stockings, corset, the whole deal, and I'd think, 'These guys actually believe I'm a woman.' Part of me was outside thinking, 'This is so absurd, funny and ridiculous.'"

Harrison, 38, preferred to keep that part at bay — for as long as he could. "I was so terrified," he recalls. "I have never been so terrified of anything in my life as I have been about dealing with my gender. This is something a lot of people misunderstand. It's not an intellectual change. I was kicking and screaming and fighting it. I did not want to be a man in this culture. But my psyche was pushing me in that direction."

Memories began to surface, like when he asked his mother if he could have a sex change, or how traumatized he'd been when

his body began to change, or how he'd learned to play women in acting school. "Even though I looked feminine, I couldn't link it up. I could carry it off because of how I looked, but inside it didn't match up for me." Toward the end of his *Permission* tour, Harrison had had around 75 dreams about becoming a man over a three-month period.

Some of these dreams have been distilled into three different sequences in *FTM*, which opens Nov. 1 in the studio at Theater Rhinoceros. "I started hormones in March of '93, and really began putting the play together six months later. Most transsexuals want to forget when they're in the change. It's so painful emotionally, a dying and a being reborn. But to me it was such an amazing twilight space, not knowing the language of the new world, yet having to let go of the old."

A one-man play, *FTM* focuses on two characters in two different time periods, Timothy and his mother Jean, who has breast cancer. Both have been swept up in life changes that demand courage and self-honesty. "Obviously the main character is based on me, but there's much that's been altered to make a better story. And some is based on my mother's experience, but only certain aspects. I've created the character as Scottish, while my mother is a Viennese Jew who escaped from Austria in 1938 and came to London."

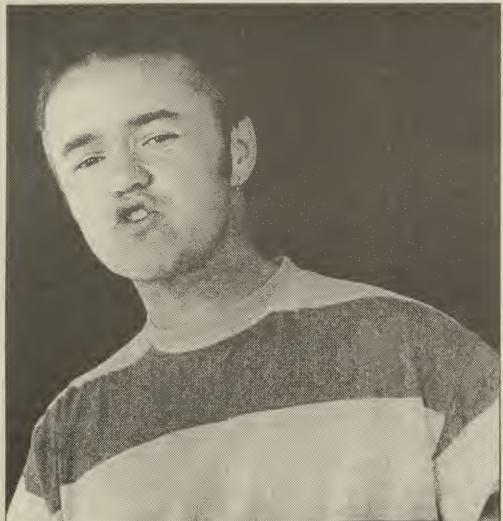
Performing the play is an important part of Harrison's own life journey. "If I want to be truly accepted for who I am, I have to present myself as who I am. If I present myself as a man, I'm still carrying around secrets. Part of who I am is my past. I knew long before I did the change that I would have to be public about it. It's such an opportunity to let people in."

Hiding, Harrison believes, communicates shame, and while the vast majority in the audience have not had his experience or even thought much about gender, all can relate to having the courage to reach inside and pull out what has been suppressed.

Freeing yourself

FTM received a workshop production in San Francisco, in May 1994. "It was the first time I'd ever done a solo show," Harrison says. "I was worried about remembering all the lines." He was also concerned that because so little has been written from the female-to-male perspective, people might identify him as the voice of FTM's. "I'm not representative," he explains. "This is my perspective, my experience. I'm pretty out there, pretty queer."

Harrison, who identified as a lesbian before the change, now defines himself as a gay man. It's an added hurdle for mainstream audiences, Harrison says. "It puts it out there that a transsexual man



Jason Alberstein

David Harrison

can love men. And that's good for mainstream audiences because it totally confuses them. Teaching people that gender and orientation are different challenges the concept that heterosexuality is the norm. My presence disrupts something very fundamental."

Apparently that disruption hasn't been unwelcome, because *FTM* has been playing to packed houses in both Canada and the U.S. In fact, Harrison just returned from a run in Vancouver, during which half the dates sold out; he also appeared on Canadian TV, radio, and the six o'clock news. But after months of mainstream performances, Harrison is pleased to be back in his hometown. "Queer audiences get the jokes. Sometimes mainstreamers are afraid to laugh — they're afraid it'll offend me. Queer audiences understand that it's OK."

If you saw the play in '94, you'll note that much has changed. "The words are the same," Harrison says, "but in the performance I'm always looking for new things, things that play better physically. It'll seem quite different from the

first run."

Harrison has been concentrating on the physical lately, training with a theater movement specialist in the East Bay. "I may do some Shakespeare," he says enthusiastically. Meanwhile he's working on a new play, one less autobiographical and more concerned with outer relationships than inner journeys.

"*FTM* is really about becoming oneself, whoever that may be. It may mean letting go of a job or a lifestyle that's unfulfilling. That seems very different from a gender change, but it can have that much magnitude. *FTM* can be a metaphor for anyone who wants to break out of a restricting lifestyle and really free themselves." ▀

David Harrison's *FTM*, directed by Mimi McGurl, runs Nov. 1 through Nov. 24, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., Sundays, 7:30 p.m., in the studio at Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street. Call (415) 861-5079 for tickets and information.

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Photo by Jason B. Gavann

THEATRE

Murmur of the heart

Message matters most in Magic Theatre's 'Pieces of the Quilt'

by Chad Jones

Pieces of the Quilt, the Magic Theatre's program of seven short AIDS plays, some of them written by this country's most interesting playwrights, is theater at its heartfelt best. Dramatically speaking, however, the results are somewhat mixed, which is no surprise, considering that this disparate group of writers has been saddled with the difficult task of creating a dramatic arc in under 15 minutes. Still, the plays, written by, respectively, Migdal Cruz, Philip Kan Gotanda, Danny Hoch, Naomi Iizuka,



Sean San José Blackman

Octavio Solis, Erin Cressida Wilson and Lanford Wilson, succeed because of the commitment the actors show to the material and to each other, as well as to the achingly poignant subject matter they explore throughout the show's two and a half hours.

Sean San José Blackman, one of the Bay Area's most prominent young actors, conceived *Pieces of the Quilt* as a tribute to his mother and father, both of whom he lost to AIDS. With the help of Magic Theatre Artistic Director Mame Hunt, Blackman was able to collect an astonishing assortment of plays from the seven aforementioned writers as well as Jon Robin Baitz, Tony Kushner, Sandra Bernhard, David Henry Hwang, Craig Lucas and Ntozake Shange, among others.

Obviously, with such an embarrassment of riches, choices in play selection had to be made, and it seems Blackman and director R. A. White attempted to provide as much variety and inclusiveness as possible. The seven "panels" of this *Quilt* represent a wide spectrum of the AIDS pandemic: women and men, straight and gay, old and young — all are represented in a panoply of cultures and skin colors. Even if the final choices are not all great plays, the show's creators succeed in conveying the unlimited scope of AIDS.

In an evening of exciting performances, Blackman's emerges as the most vibrant. In *Silica*, a dizzying solo piece by Octavio Solis, the young actor begins as a man in mourning who sadly puts on the eyeglasses of his dead lover. Instantly, he becomes the lover and a cast of about seven gay friends on a metaphorical day-into-night joyride through San

Francisco. Blackman pounces on each characterization and captures a mad rush of energy that brings astonishing vitality to Solis' poetic dialogue.

Another stand-out performance among the generally excellent cast of six comes from Danny Scheie, well-known in these parts as the director of such ultra-queer fare as Theatre Rhine's all-male *Twelfth Night* and *The Desk Set*. In Lanford Wilson's *Your Everyday Ghost Story*, Scheie is the sassy ghost of an AIDS patient come back to visit an emotionally walled-in friend. Scheie effortlessly conveys the humor and wry pathos of the scene and hits every comic and dramatic mark. As Captain Class in Danny Hoch's *Clinic Con Class*, Scheie again superbly works every comic moment as the superhero who bursts into an urban health clinic to

deny the existence of class distinctions and insist that most disturbances are racial in nature. Scheie is a welcome burst of light in what is, understandably, a somewhat dark evening.

The women in the cast, Delia MacDougall and June Lomena, are extremely effective. MacDougall conveys a tentative strength that serves her characters well, especially in Erin Cressida Wilson's *My Girl is in Front (Daughters)*, in which she is a high school student having an affair with one of her deceased father's former tricks. Lomena's ability to imbue even the most strained dialogue (like in Migdal Cruz's *So...*) with sincerity and natural rhythm makes each of her characters, most notably the AIDS patient in Naomi Iizuka's *Scheherazade*, vivid and memorable.

The cast is rounded out by Luis

Saguar and noted local choreographer/dancer Robert Henry Johnson, who proves that he is indeed a man of many talents.

That an evening of short plays dealing with AIDS can be so affecting and interesting is a testament to the ardor which all involved devote to this production. *Pieces of the Quilt* is a noble and necessary the-

atrical pursuit made even more so by the fact that all ticket proceeds benefit Project Open Hand and the NAMES Project. ▼

Pieces of the Quilt continues at the Magic Theatre through Nov. 17. Call 441-8822 for information.

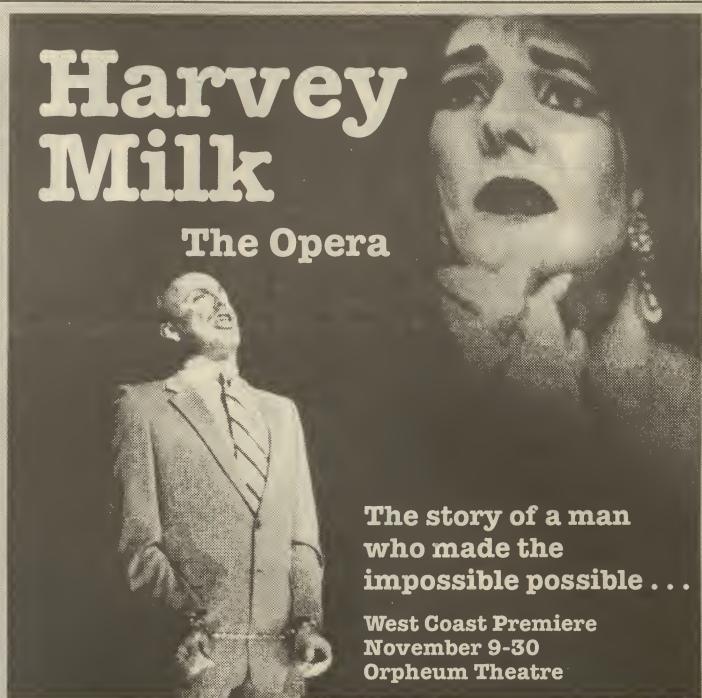


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The Cast (partial list)

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THEATRE



Tennessee Williams

Man in love

'The Rose Tattoo' was a love poem to the world, and Frank Merlo

by Chad Jones

As far as tortured homosexual writers go, Tennessee Williams is at the top of the list. In play after play, from *The Glass Menagerie* to *A Streetcar Named Desire* to *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*, Williams lived part of his life through romantically deluded heroines like Blanche DuBois and Maggie the Cat. Few would pair his name with the concept of a happy ending.

With the 1951 play *The Rose Tattoo*, however, Williams took a break from his romantic fatalism and wrote what he calls his "love poem to the world." *The Rose Tattoo*, which opened at the American Conservatory Theatre last night, does have a happy ending. Unlike Blanche or Maggie, Williams allows Rose's heroine, Serafina Delle Rose, to triumph. A

fiery Sicilian widow living in an immigrant Gulf Coast town, Serafina overcomes her obsession with her dead husband, consummates her love affair with the strapping, virile Alvara Mangiacavallo, and allows her daughter, Rosa Delle Rose, the freedom to pursue her own passion. Such optimistic willingness to indulge in romance is an anomaly in the Williams canon, and the reason for this divergence is simple. When Williams began to write the play in 1948, he was in love.

The object of Williams' affections, and the man with whom he would share the next 14 years, was Frank Merlo, a young Sicilian-American who had served in the Navy during World War II. The 37-year-old Tennessee and the 25-year-old Frankie (as he was known to his friends) met in Provincetown in the summer of 1947. After this initial meeting,

the two met again shortly after Williams' success with *Streetcar*. Then, in December 1948, Williams and Merlo sailed to Europe with Paul Bowles, and after touring through Tangier and Rome, Williams and Merlo settled in Sicily for a few months, and Williams began to write *The Rose Tattoo*. The completed play overflows with Williams' love of the Italian people, an affection that grew directly from his burgeoning relationship with Merlo. In his *Memoirs*, Williams wrote: "[*The Rose Tattoo*] was permeated with the happy young love for Frankie[.] and I dedicated the book to him, saying: 'To Frankie, in Return for Sicily.'"

Williams' biographer Lyle Leverich, who has published *Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams*, the first installment of a two-part biography, says that Merlo helped Williams survive his celebrity and his success. "Frankie was everything to Tennessee," Leverich says. "And he gave so much of himself to Williams, getting him to the airport on time, making sure he wore matching socks. Tennessee wasn't a deliberate slob, but his mind was always working on plays and ideas, so he needed someone like Frank to tell him to change his underwear."

Merlo, however, did more than serve as inspiration for *Rose*'s fulfilled romance. Williams, Leverich explains, was captivated by Merlo's sense of humor. "Tennessee was always drawn to anyone who made him laugh," he says. Hence, it's only natural that Williams, in love at last with a man who made him laugh, could produce a full-length comedy like *The Rose Tattoo*.

Williams and comedy — it's a hard marriage to comprehend, but *The Rose Tattoo* is filled with humor and a compassionate affirmation of life and love. A.C.T. Artistic Director Carey Perloff is directing her company's production of the play and says that she is often hesitant to apply the playwright's biographical details to her interpretation of the play but is making an exception for Williams. "What I learned from reading Lyle's biography of Williams is that the secrets of his life ended up in his plays in many subtle ways," Perloff says. "Knowing what we do about his relationship with Frank Merlo is incredibly illuminating, because it was through Frank that Tennessee fell in love with Italians. There is a dignity and a vitality to Italians in this play; they're not kitsch like you might expect from the '50s, and that comes from Tennessee's loving exposure to Italians through Frank."

Perloff, who is directing her first Williams play, says gay audiences will perhaps have a greater appreciation for *The Rose Tattoo* if they explore some of the rich biographical material available on the playwright. "The relationship between his sexuality and his work has been an important step in finding out how the plays operate," says Perloff. "Tony Kushner calls Williams a mentor and an inspiration and says he created what Kushner calls 'the theater of the fabulous.'"

Because of the way Williams was brought up and the fact that sexually and artistically he was an

next page ▶

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THEATRE

Tacky Tartuffe

by Jerry Metzker

Moliere's *Tartuffe* is probably the greatest play of religious and political hypocrisy ever written. Even after more than 300 years its brazen attack on evil masquerading as purity still plays well. But in the Chameleon Theatre Company's production of Moliere's rufous satire on religion and values, director Walter Niejadlik achieves the impossible — a positively pedestrian *Tartuffe*. Instead of letting the play speak for itself and reach into the audience's understanding, Niejadlik has taken everything too literally by setting the piece in a contemporary framework.

Moliere's play, Orgon is a man of tremendous wealth and power who falls victim to the false religious piety of Tartuffe. In spite of the many warnings made to him by others of Tartuffe's deceitfulness, Orgon opens up his house to the villain, and, one by one, he loses prized possessions, which include his property and his daughter's hand in marriage. It takes a desperate act by Orgon's sensible and devoted wife Elmire to open her husband's eyes.

Niejadlik sets the play in the White House of 1996. The Oregon character (Jonathan B. Gonzalez) is played as Bill Clinton, and Tartuffe (Kevin Campbell) is Newt Gingrich. The voice of wisdom, Cleante (Mark Hardwick), is a bland Jimmy Carter. Though this is a clever conceit, it fails ultimately because the human element is lost when characters are cloaked in such obvious caricatures. Viewers feel compelled to

Moliere's *Tartuffe* updated in Chameleon Theatre production.

offer referendums on actors' powers of impersonation rather than their ability to tell a story with tension, conviction and style.

The staging is hardly more successful. Every movement seems to have been inspired by a too-close reading of a how-to manual, not by dramatic purpose. The pacing confuses energy with speed. The night I saw the show it seemed as if

the actors were all racing to finish the play before 10 p.m. (they nearly made it). In a less contrived production this would be suitably madcap, but here it's just so much noise and bluster. ▶

Tartuffe continues at Venue 9 (252 9th St.) through Nov. 9. Call 626-2619.

Rose Tattoo

◀ previous page

outsider, Perloff believes he had an extraordinary empathy with people who didn't fit into the dominant culture. "This is one of the reasons Serafina is such a rich character. In some ways she's like the other women of the town, but she has a vision. She's the artist, and the other women resent her for that, but this is what allows her to survive. Understanding Williams' life and his perspective on the world is a clue to Serafina."

Another clue to the richness of Serafina is the woman who inspired her: the great Italian actress Anna Magnani. Leverich says Williams was fascinated by Magnani because she was sexually liberated at a time when such behavior shocked the world. "When Magnani saw a handsome man," Leverich says, "that was it. She enjoyed life and lived it to the hilt. Unlike the repressed Southern women he wrote about, Magnani inspired and liberated him." Because she was primarily a movie actress and because she felt her English was not good enough, Magnani agreed to appear only in the film version of *The Rose Tattoo*, for which she earned the 1955 Academy Award for best actress.

In writing about *The Rose Tattoo* for *Vogue* in 1951, Williams said: "So many of [the play's instances] of revelation are wayward flashes, not part of the plan of an author but struck accidentally off, and perhaps these are the closest to being a true celebration of the inebriate god." Williams' "celebration" with Merlo lasted for a turbulent 14 years and survived what



A.C.T. Artistic Director Carey Perloff.

Leverich calls Williams' "paranoid, jealous suspicions." When Tennessee learned that Merlo had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, he wept openly and, later, was inspired to write. "What I didn't know was that I was as much in love with Frankie all that difficult time of the early sixties as I had ever been before.... As long as Frank was well, I was happy. He had a gift for creating life and, when he ceased to be alive, I couldn't create a life for myself." Frank Merlo died on September 20, 1963 at the age of 41.

Williams survived his lover by nearly 20 years, but he never recaptured the success he had known in the '50s. His later, more obscure plays, including *THIS IS (An Entertainment)*, which premiered at A.C.T. in 1975, eschew the grand opera of *Streetcar* or *Night of the Iguana* and embrace a

style more akin to a chamber piece. In these late works, the poet that had always threatened to subsume the dramatist frequently does so — and sometimes strangely. And though some of these pieces proved interesting and experimental, Williams never delivered another "love poem to the world" like *The Rose Tattoo*. ▶

As part of A.C.T. Perspectives, Williams biographer Lyle Leverich and New Yorker drama critic John Lahr will host "The Rose Tattoo and the Complex Legacy of Tennessee Williams" from 7-9 p.m. on Nov. 18 at the Geary Theatre. Admission is free.

The Rose Tattoo continues at the Geary Theatre through Nov. 24. Call 749-2228 for tickets and information.

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Romeo & Juliet

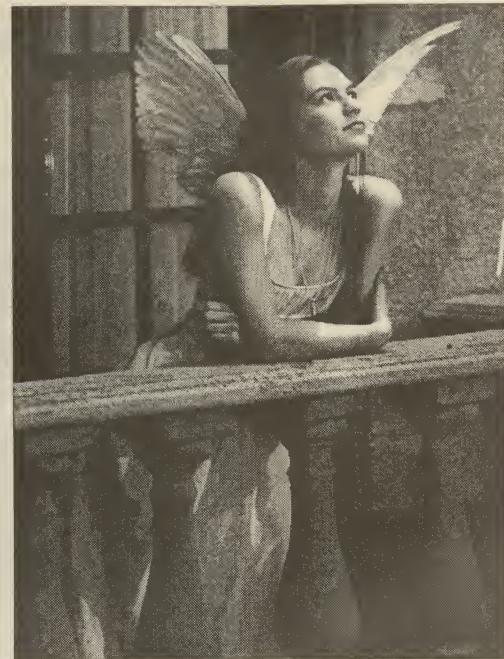
◀ Arts cover

yet removes yards of dialogue and replaces it with stunning visual and aural set pieces. Luhrmann's regular team — production designer Catherine Martin, costume designer Kym Barrett, editor Jill Bilcock, and co-producer Martin Brown — aims straight for the gut of the young and disaffected. If Shakespearean scholars have their noses put out of joint by the vivid, Day-Glo colors, the transformation of Mercutio (Harold Perrineau) into a black drag queen, or the punk implications and unashamed Catholic symbolism that crowd every scene, so much the worse for them. They can always rent Franco Zeffirelli's vis-à-vis version.

The film opens, as the play does, with a prologue (read by a TV anchor), then segues into a series of hot set pieces. Romeo's cousins, the feckless Montague boys, rumble in a gas station with Juliet's "Chucho" kinsmen, led by John Leguizamo's dangerous Tybalt. The scene is played both for menace and dark humor. Romeo (Leonardo DiCaprio) languishes on the beach, writing poetry while his parents (Brian Dennehy and Christine Pickles) worry over his melancholy.

Juliet's father (Paul Sorvino) is a domestic tyrant who speaks with a Mexican accent and wants to marry his daughter to a smarmy astronaut (Paul Rudd). Her mother (Diane Venora), obviously having an affair with her nephew Tybalt, is the classic blond, neurotic trophy wife. The Nurse (Miriam Margolyes) is right out of a sitcom, a kindly but spineless old lady. Juliet (Claire Danes) is wide-eyed but not so innocent; she's the one who initiates every advance of her relationship with Romeo. Danes is not exactly a glamour girl when blown up to eight feet on the big screen, but you believe she is brave enough to carry out the poison deception.

The Capulet's party is fabulously staged, with Romeo and



Juliet (Claire Danes) is hoping to avoid an arranged marriage to a smarmy astronaut.

Juliet slipping away from their elders in an Art Deco elevator in which they kiss rapturously and are startled every time the door opens. It's a costume party and she comes as an angel, complete with stiff little wings, while he's a slender knight in literally shining armor. Vowing eternal love in the famous balcony scene, they accidentally fall into her swimming pool. Luhrmann makes sharp, bold decisions about how to modernize the story while maintaining its ageless romance; he has nearly perfect pitch.

If the movie has a flaw it's that it begins at such an exhilarating, giddy pace that it has nowhere left to go when things turn tragic. At some point in Shakespeare you must trust the poetry. Friar Lau-

rence (Pete Postlethwaite) and Margolyes are trained actors, but DiCaprio and Danes, Leguizamo and Perrineau basically gabble their lines as fast as they can. I understood everything they were saying, but I know the play by heart. I wonder if a Shakespearean novice — and that is obviously the audience Luhrmann is aiming at — would have any idea what is being expressed verbally. Or care. In the end, it may not matter. This is all Baz Luhrmann's, not Shakespeare's, *Romeo and Juliet*, and it is both visually passionate and aesthetically stimulating. ▼

William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet opens Friday, Nov. 1 in general release.

DANCE

Perfect pairs

At its best, the choreography of Alonzo King inhabits an atmosphere of erotic mysticism. He's a Romantic, and his dancers float like Wagner's Isolde, as if in a kind of intoxicated hormonal trance. King's company has just finished a two-week run at the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens, where they looked good even on an off night last week. They have learned to dance without stiffness, so that what you see is a continuous flow of movement, like grass in the wind or water flowing over rocks.

When the dancers aren't at peak form, it just pours over you meaninglessly. But when they're really on, as Christina Johnson and Brian Chung were as Spirit and Nature in the *pas de deux* from *Sacred Text*, it's gripping. (Ms. Johnson is a guest from the Dance Theater of Harlem). Like a cat being stroked, she rises on pointe, gives herself up, and puts her fate ecstatically into his hands. When he shifts Ms. Johnson off balance, rotates her slowly in this dangerously canted line, and delicately sets her back on her own feet, you feel like such a trust amounts to faith itself.

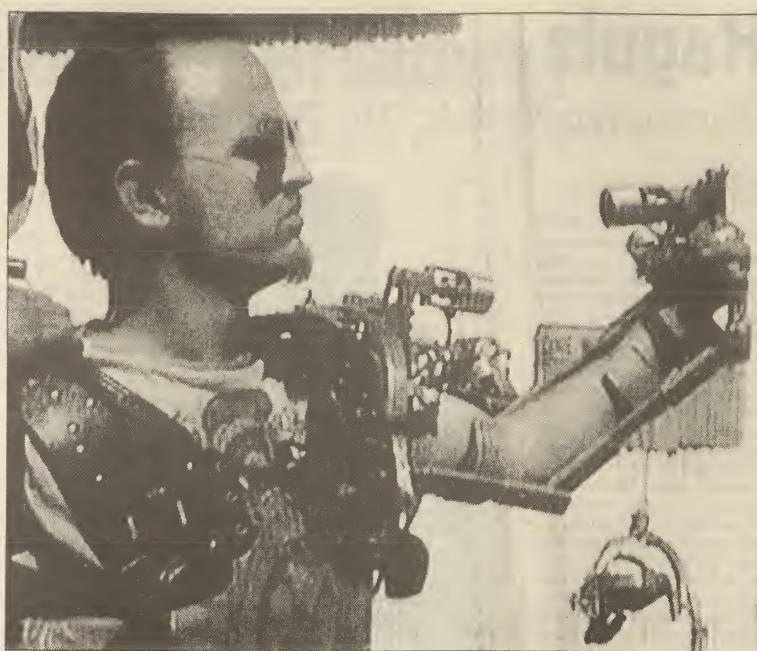
There's not much romance in dance these days. For over a decade now, convincing *pas de deux* have dramatized conflict, surliness, hostility, refusal to commit. Tharp's are joke, Forsythe's cynical. Pina Bausch's men throw women against the walls. But at Laney College Theater in Oakland last Saturday, I saw a romantic partnership (Sonia Delwaide and Jadson Caldeira) so seductive, so attuned, so interpenetrative, it felt like the '70s were back. They're part of la Compagnie de la Danse Astragale (they've moved here from Quebec), and I can't wait to see them again. ▼

—Paul Parish



Mary San

FILM



Leslie Asako Gladys

Fun and games at Survival Research Laboratories in *Pandaemonium*.

Indie 500

Status quo bucked in Film Arts Festival

by Gary Morris

Most film festivals overwhelm even the most dedicated film buffs by scheduling vast numbers of films that run from morning till night. Sensitive to this problem, organizers of the 20th annual Film Arts Festival have ingeniously assembled brief programs consisting of theme-driven shorts and featurettes that run, in toto, about the length of a feature film. Even so, the sheer number of entries in FAF makes it impossible to comment on more than a few films. Still, it's possible to say that while quality varies widely, the fact that most of the films in this showcase are independents assures a basic level of challenge to the filmmaking status quo, which makes the festival worthwhile.

There is no gay per-se program, but there are queer features, namely, Karen Everett's *I Shall Not Be Removed: The Life of Marlon Riggs* and Nick Katsapetess' *Get Over It*. Queerdom does pop up, however, in a variety of other contexts. The "Why Breathe" program (about "what it takes to keep on breathing") features a George Kuchar video diary, *The Creeping Crimson*, with Kuchar linking the change of seasons to his aging mother's illness. Also on this program is Stuart Gaffney's *Look Harder*, a creative exploration of the now-forgotten controversy over Rock Hudson kissing Linda Evans on *Dynasty*. In the "So Cal" program, Greg Sax's 27 deconstructs the *Father Knows Best*-type household in an unusual look at the AIDS crisis.

The centerpiece gay feature, *Get Over It*, is a disappointment, an inept gay *Melrose Place* about a group of youngish queens, dykes, and fag hags who get together to cheer up one of their pals who's been dumped by his boyfriend. Lines like "I feel like a character in a Gregg Araki movie" are clear signs of the filmmakers' gay-ghetto mentality. Shapeless, overlong sequences scream for the editor's

The 20th annual Film Arts Festival runs Oct. 31 through Nov. 10 at the Roxie Cinema, Kabuki Theater, The Marsh, the SF Main Library, the U.C. Theater, and at the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley. For times, tickets, and information, call 552-FILM.

knife and drive home the point that most of the film's actors have never acted. Fortunately, the documentary on Marlon Riggs, *I Shall Not Be Removed*, in spite of intermittent bathos, reminds us how powerful gay art can be when it follows fresh paths.

High culture gets the multicultural once-over in *Shakespeare's Children*, written and produced by Kate Kline May and directed by Irving Saraf and Allie Light (of *Dialogues with Mad-women* fame). This entrancing documentary shows the complexities of producing a multicultural elementary-school version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Berkeley's Malcolm X school. Along the way we get vivid portraits of a fantastically funny, energetic group of kids whose participation inspires them to new heights of self-confidence and an expanded world view. The film juggles multiple emotions like the kids — one minute they're doing pratfalls, next they're picturing the play transported to their own world, where they sometimes see disputes resolved with guns rather than words.

Ben Brand's troubling *Opposite Camps* mines some of the same territory as *Shakespeare's Children*, but from a different angle. Here it's a six-week summer camp for black kids from Harlem run by a group of white middle-class counselors who bring their own subtle prejudices and frustrations into the mix. Even a simple game of kick-ball opens up questions of race and class that counselors seem unable to confront.

The literal cutting edge is explored in Leslie Asako Gladys and Richard Curson Smith's superb, well-named *Pandaemonium*, a look at a group of male artists who explore a futuristic art based on body modifications; robots that torture, play with, and assault each other; and elaborate, jungle gym-like structures in which various hapless volunteers are bound and tortured.

David Therrien, an artist/experimenter from Arizona, says ominously, "Technology evolves on its own," a major motif of this kind of art, which intermingles man and machine. In Chico Mac-Murtrie's work, robots form tableaux that purposefully blur the line between flesh and steel.

Unlike the recent Castro Theatre feature *Synthetic Pleasures*, which it superficially resembles, *Pandaemonium* mixes bizarre performance footage with intelligent commentary that analyzes the fetishism, sadomasochism, and homoerotic currents underlying much of this work. Mark Pauline's infamous Survival Research Laboratory in particular comes off as a kind of pathological boy's club, with hunky Pauline orchestrating rituals of masculine violence carried out by rickety robots, giant flame jets, and bloody animal parts. Like other artists working in uncharted areas (Chris Burden comes to mind), Pauline has suffered for his desire to innovate: his hands were turned into mangled stumps when a device he was holding exploded.

Some of this art has a perversely playful side, like when futurist Stellarc laughingly describes his mild self-electrocutions — "Voltage squirting all over your body!" He's also shown attached naked to a crane via numerous hooks in his body, to the dismay of an impromptu outdoor audience and the police, who arrest him. He offers a compelling insight, based on experience, that few of us would stumble over on our own: "Skin squeaks!" ▼

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Hagula

Moreau repellent in 'The Proprietor'

by Gary Morris

smael Merchant and James Ivory are known the world over for literate but dull, bloodless historical dramas based on high-toned works by writers like Henry James and E.M. Forster. One would think that Merchant without Ivory might only be half bad, but in the case of *The Proprietor*, a new film directed by Merchant, the problems are magnified, due in no small way to the apparently insatiable ego of its star, Jeanne Moreau.

Moreau plays Adrienne Mark, a French expatriate novelist living in New York. Haunted by memories of her Jewish mother being taken by the Nazis, and disgusted by the increasing violence of New York, she decides to move back to Paris. She has a black maid, played as a grateful, subservient Mammy figure by Nell Carter, to whom she gives her prize possession, an extremely valuable painting. Eventually she gets to Paris, where she reconnects with ex-lovers, ex-husbands, ex-directors, and an ambitious American movie exec played by Sean Young, who wants to remake one of Adrienne's acclaimed novels. On the sidelines is young filmmaker William O'Hara (Josh Hamilton), who follows his idol around like a lap dog, trying to be noticed.

The Proprietor careens wildly into a variety of subplots and set-pieces, many of which seem to have nothing to do with each other. Sean Young's character does a barefooted fountain dip while her boyfriend serenades her with a French-inflected "If I Didn't Care" that sounds like a Vegas lounge act. Characterizations are sketchy and wavering — in one scene, Adrienne's ex-director, Franz Legende (Jean-Pierre Aumont, looking mummified), is slabbed out on what appears to be his death bed; in the next, he's running around regaling guests at a party. Sean Young starts out hard as nails, but morphs inexplicably into a zany airhead, in-



Seth Rain

Nell Carter and Jeanne Moreau in *The Proprietor*.

vading strangers' weddings and prancing up and down a stage. Adrienne's wannabe lover, William O'Hara, doesn't even register; he's just an empty mirror for Adrienne's "greatness," a status he unwittingly defines by calling himself "the friendly ghost."

Nell Carter's Milly is a classic racist construct. She's the wise, sheltering, and ultimately redeeming mother-figure who sacrifices herself for the good of her "friend" Adrienne, who puts her on the head when she sings a Wilson Pickett song. Unlike Adrienne, whose digs are lavish, Milly lives in what appears to be lower-middle-class circumstances. Yet, against the protests of her family, she sells the painting Adrienne gave her and gives the money, \$250,000, to Adrienne, so that she can afford to buy back her vast apartment in Paris. The film is blissfully unaware of the class injustice here, and presents this disturbing event

as an almost spiritual exchange between two friends.

The film — whose title is still inexplicable when the end credits roll — also takes great pains to deify Moreau. Perhaps as an antidote to the wizened, bile-spewing witches of her recent films, here she is almost nauseatingly dignified, extending her largesse in every direction. She registers liberal-minded horror at the racism of a French taxi driver, but is apparently too stupid to see how racism functions in her own relationship with Milly. The film tries unsuccessfully to build audience sympathy by showing her pain — hallucinations of dead relatives, images of racial injustice — and her modesty, as she bravely accepts the endless praise that pours out at her from every corner. ▼

The Proprietor is in general release.

Sane, black and gay

Spike Lee's latest is homo-friendly

by Ron Hypolite

Spike Lee's new film, *Get On the Bus*, begins in South Central Los Angeles when a group of black men board a bus, The Spotted Owl, that will transport them across America to the Million Man March in Washington, D.C.

Screenwriter Reggie Rock Bythewood reveals an arresting maturity and honesty as the storyline unfolds. Each man is a potent mix of strengths and weaknesses of character, complex emotions and historical contradictions. None is perfect, some make the journey in search of the elusive brotherhood evoked by the March while others set out for networking opportunities. One is an unwilling passenger, another is forcibly ejected from the bus as a kind of traitor. A spirit of atone-

All aboard: the cast of *Get On the Bus*.

Universal Pictures

OPERA

Best of Broadway

SFO's new production of 'Carmen'

by Paul Thomason

Bizet's *Carmen* is one of the most popular operas ever written, and with good reason. It has more catchy, instantly hummable tunes than any Broadway show today, and features an enticing bad girl who finally gets killed by the good boy she leads astray. Last week at the Civic Auditorium, the San Francisco Opera unveiled General Director Lotfi Mansouri's new, all-American, razzle-dazzle production of this enthralling story of sex and death, and, all things considered, it's a spectacle worthy of Cecil B. DeMille.

Mansouri's *Carmen* features a set, designed by Michael Yeargan, consisting of red metal scaffolding that breaks apart and rumbles around the stage for no particular reason. The production also offers a cast of thousands — well, actually only 226 — but on opening night it sounded like there were thousands, all wearing tap shoes and often used in ways that had nothing to do with either the drama or the music.

Was it the production's over-the-top qualities that inspired Music Director Donald Runnicles to charge through Bizet's atmospheric score, leaving orchestra and chorus in hot pursuit? Or had he decided it was impossible to convey the nuances of French opera in a hall the size of the Civic? Whatever the reason, Bizet is not Andrew Lloyd Webber.

In the title role, mezzo Olga Borodina was puzzling. Her dark, sumptuous, rich voice is even from top to bottom, she seems to have total command over it, and these days that is a rarity. One can

only be grateful to hear such a major instrument used so well. Unfortunately, she did not come within a mile of being Carmen. Despite all of her physical agility on stage (and there was plenty of that), she never showed why all the men preferred her to any of the other cigarette girls. We never understood why Don Jose would ruin himself for her favors. To Borodina's eternal credit, however, her Carmen, a few pieces of vulgar stage business aside, spent little time in the gutter, either vocally or physically.

But Carmen is not a slightly feisty suburban girl whose parents were too permissive, and that is what Borodina gave us. Like Hans Sachs, Norma, and other great roles, Carmen has so many different facets and dimensions a singer could easily spend a lifetime exploring them. This run is Borodina's debut in the part, and she certainly has the potential to be a great Carmen, especially if she can work with someone who thoroughly understands both French style and the role's true depth. I look forward to seeing her Carmen again in five or ten years.

In his company debut, Jose Cura offered a Don Jose that was in some ways the exact opposite of Borodina's Carmen. The 33-year-old tenor is perhaps not conventionally handsome, but on stage he is both a riveting presence and sex on a stick. In Act II, when Carmen dances for Don Jose, Cura grabbed a chair, straddled it, and s-l-o-w-l-y unbuttoned his uniform jacket, never taking his eyes off her. It was one of the most overwhelmingly erotic moments I have ever had in the theater.

But Cura's spinto tenor, for all

its exciting virility and dark burnished sound on top, was often pushed to the limit. When he tried to sing softly he went flat, and he seemed to have no clue that isolated notes are supposed to go together in phrases. Without phrasing or varied dynamics, Cura's Flower Song, the role's big aria, went for naught. If he gets through a role like Don Jose only on stage presence and ringing high notes, one fears for upcoming appearances in even more demanding roles, like Verdi's Otello. One hopes Cura does not go from "astonishing potential" to "has-been."

The less said about the other company debut, Richard Paul Fink as Escamillo, the better. Thierry Bosquet's costumes were universally unflattering (that Norma Shearer-getting-on-the-Orient-Express-number Carmen wore up in the mountains in Act III really took the cake), but not even Ezio Pinza could have pulled off the Las Vegas costumes Bosquet gave Escamillo.

Mary Mills relied on stentorian singing to try and bring Micaela to life, which is a shame. She has a beautiful voice that would naturally convey the character's sweetness and charm, if only she would relax and trust the music's line to work its magic. David Orlund was a strong Morales, but Philip Skinner blustered as Zuniga.

The sound system was doing double-duty on opening night.

Jose Cura and Olga Borodina in *Carmen*.

Larry Merkle

Though most of the orchestra was seated to my left, I heard it — or, rather, I heard individual instruments the mikes picked up — only through my right ear, thanks to a speaker overhead. And occasionally singers actually sounded louder after turning their backs. This "sonic enhancement" seems to get more pronounced and gimmicky the longer the company is in the Civic, which is giving every-

one a new appreciation for the War Memorial. ▼

Performances of *Carmen* with this cast continue at the Civic Auditorium through Nov. 8. Four additional performances will be given in Feb. with a different cast. For tickets (\$8 to \$125) and information call (415) 864-3330.

OPERA

Mezzo Larmore turns up the heat



Tickets are on sale now for mezzo-soprano Jennifer Larmore's November 14 recital at Herbst Theatre (8 p.m.). Accompanied by pianist Antoine Palloc, Larmore, who just finished a successful run of *The Barber of Seville* with the San Francisco Opera, will perform works by Handel, Purcell, Rossini, Mozart, Gounod, Nin, and others. Tickets (\$22-\$32) can be bought by phone (392-4400), or purchased at City Box Office, 153 Kearny St. ▼

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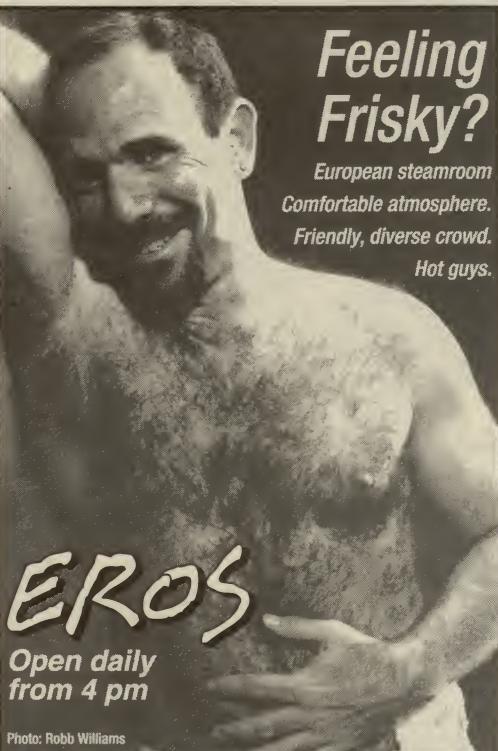
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Marc Geller

Michael Nava and Katherine V. Forrest.

Making mystery*A chat with fiction writers***Katherine V. Forrest and Michael Nava****by Deborah Peifer**

San Francisco is a book lover's paradise. Not only do we have more and better book stores, we have lots of writers, among them more than a few who are lesbian and gay. I had the opportunity recently to talk with two queer writers about gay and lesbian fiction. Katherine V. Forrest is the author of, among other titles, the wildly popular Kate Delafield mysteries. Her latest, *Liberty Square*, was published by Berkeley Prime Crime. Michael Nava writes the Henry Rios series, and his most recent novel is *The Death of Friends* (Putnam).

Deborah Peifer: You each write gay or lesbian mystery novels. In addition, Michael, your hero is a person of color, and Katherine, you write from a feminist perspective. Of those categories, when you start writing, what comes first?

Michael Nava: For me, the things that make me angry are ordinarily the things that happen to gays and lesbians, so that's usually the first element that goes into my books, so I would say that that is where I begin. The fact that he [Rios] is a person of color doesn't really enter into it as much because, like my protagonist, I'm sort of estranged from my ethnic community because I'm gay. In the abstract I'm certainly down with my Latino brothers and sisters politically, but it doesn't have the same emotional charge for me. I think I have some lingering problems with the feeling that I had to leave that part of my identity in order to become a gay man.

Katherine Forrest: I want to write about things that are really important to the gay and lesbian community. I think that kind of infuses every one of my books, but I think where I differ a little is that my character came to life — well, the first book [*Amateur City*, Naiad] was published in 1984, which means I started writing about Kate Delafield in 1983. In

the first book she represented the typical lesbian of that time. She was not connected with her community, per se; she didn't know we had any books; she was deeply closeted; she was very isolated; she knew only a small group of gays and lesbians. That was her circle. And I think that's the way most of us lived back in those days, and so the entire series has been about trying to bring her out.

In the second book, *Murder at the Nightwood Bar* (Naiad), I connect her with the community because she has to investigate a murder at a lesbian bar. That book is as much a story of a woman's journey to community as it is a mystery. With each of the books she's dealing more and more with her closetedness. It's a continuing issue throughout the series, and probably the most important subject for gays and lesbians to be writing about in the 1990s.

DP: Michael, one of the things that really impressed me about your new book, *The Death of Friends*, is the way you explore the corrosiveness of secrets and how much they hurt people, which connects with what Katherine is saying about the closet. As soon as someone says, "Don't tell anyone," there is this force that says "I can't think about it because I'm not supposed to say it." My sense with both of your characters is that they spend a lot of time worrying about being out, only because we can never, apparently, be out 100 percent.

MN: Absolutely. Our characters are out at very different levels. Nonetheless, when I was writing about Chris Chandler, the closeted judge who is one of the friends who dies in my book, I tried to put myself in his shoes. I didn't want to write a cardboard character of a closeted man. I tried to think what would make me make that decision to stay in the closet, even to have this marriage, which was not exactly a sham marriage but which was surely destructive. It was easy to do so, and I was surprised.

I sometimes wonder what I

would be like as a writer if I could wake up in a culture where it really didn't matter. At the root of all of my books, and this was not planned by me any more than Katherine may have planned her series, but at the root of all my books is secrecy. Rios is a lawyer who is interested in justice in part because he feels so keenly the injustice of being different.

KF: I think that's what grieves me most. We spend more time dealing with who we are. I mean what other minority group, besides black people, spends more time being aware of who and what they are in culture? That's one of the profundities of Michael's work — how damaged we are by secrets.

DP: That's what makes "Don't ask. Don't tell" so grotesque.

MN: That's what makes Kate such an interesting character, I think, because she isn't completely out. That's her character flaw.

KF: That is her character flaw, and she's continuing to justify it ... in book after book after book.

We've talked about this a little, but I'm working on a theme here, so indulge me. Do you both have a political agenda when you write?

KF: Every writer has to write to entertain, absolutely, but if you're going to spend a year or 18 months with a book, I think it's really important for a writer's own sense of well-being to write about something they care about. Who is the audience for my books? My audience is my community and so I write about things I know they care about.

MN: I think I wrote with a much more self-consciously political focus in my earlier books, but now as I get older myself, I really make a demarcation between my political beliefs with respect to gays and lesbians and my personal life. And I am in favor of — I mean I wrote a book about it [*Created Equal: Why Gay Rights Matter to America*] — advocating

INTERVIEW

full enfranchisement for gays and lesbians, but I feel increasingly alienated from the gay male subculture, especially as I get older, and it's reflected in my work. For instance, Henry, now in his mid 40s, is discovering that life is more complicated than the ghetto.

KF: I will say that the political content of the books is part of what makes our work dynamic. It's the area that makes our characters grow and change, and it is what we have to offer. You have to write to entertain. If people want to be lectured, they can go to a lecture, or they can read non-fiction.

MN: Lecturing makes for bad books.

DP: Will either of you write non-fiction in the future?

MN: One of the books I'm writing right now is a memoir, which is allegedly non-fiction, although the deeper I get into it the more I have to invent things because I just don't remember. And Robert [Davidoff, co-author of *Created Equal*] and I talked about writing a sequel, but we came to the conclusion that we said what we had to say on the subject.

KF: At the risk of voicing a really outrageous opinion, I think fiction, even though it's outnumbered by what is being published today, is infinitely more powerful than non-fiction. Fiction is memorable in a way that non-fiction

isn't. Plus, I think most non-fiction has a shelf life of about five years while good fiction lasts for a long while.

DP: Any plans for experimenting with other types of fiction?

MN: I just sent off a grant application to the Guggenheim Foundation for support in writing an historical novel set in Arizona and Hollywood in the first three decades of this century. It's about a young Indian boy who goes to Hollywood as an actor in silent westerns. It's all based on my grandfather. I'm just fascinated by all these native people who went to Hollywood after their tribes had been exterminated to recreate the myth of the west by acting in movies that portrayed them as the villains.

DP: But given the choice between starving or being in a movie, wouldn't most be in the movie?

MN: Yeah, but they must have had feelings about it. People talk about multiculturalism as if it's just been invented, but Hollywood in the '20s was multicultural. Many of the studios were run by Jewish immigrants, many of the stars were not WASPs. Ramon Navarro and Gilbert Roland were major movie stars and they could barely speak English. Of course in silent movies that didn't matter. They were Mexican. I'm interested in outsiders and how they collaborate with the culture that makes

them and keeps them outsiders.

KF: I was recently asked a question on America Online, referencing Mother, a character of mine in *Daughters of a Coral Dawn*, and asking if I would ever do a funny novel. I would love to. I've had funny characters in some of the books. The one thing that I do know about humor is that it has nothing to do with witty lines. People who are kind of off-center in terms of the universe are really the funny people. I could do a book like that. It would be a great way to spend a year.

DP: Where would you both like to be in ten years?

MN: In ten years I hope that I've written a couple of non-Rios novels because I need to stretch as a writer. Even with a good series about an interesting character, you can get stale, and I need a break. I hope I'm still writing; I hope I still have an audience and can make a living at it.

KF: It's a hard question to answer without sounding grandiose. I just hope I live long enough to see our dreams come true. By that I mean that all the gay and lesbian children who come after us are safe. I think that's the dream of all of us. We want to know that they won't have to go through what we went through. If we can be part of what makes that possible, our lives will have made a difference.

MN: And on a purely mercenary note, I hope that in ten years we're both on the *New York Times* best-seller list. ▼

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BOOKS

Debating AIDS

Policing Public Sex: Queer Politics and the Future of AIDS Activism edited by Dangerous Bedfellows; South End Press, \$20.

As heated debates over the rise of HIV infection and the prevalence of commercial sex venues take place in urban centers across the country, *Policing Public Sex: Queer Politics and the Future of AIDS Activism* probes the new crisis points that have emerged in gay/lesbian/queer politics and HIV prevention.

In the second decade of the AIDS epidemic, this important collection of essays argues that the complexity of safer sex education has resulted in the lack of a clear vision for future prevention strategies. As Jesse Greene observed recently in the *New York Times*, "Public health has contented itself with maintaining quantity of life, assuming that quality of life will — or ought to — take care of itself." Recent studies suggesting a resurgence in HIV transmission among men who have sex with men have prompted some activists to view the first generation of HIV prevention efforts as a failure and convinced them to switch gears from education to regulation, from encouraging responsibility to enforcing repressive laws.

In contrast, the contributors to this volume acknowledge that the potential increase in HIV transmission poses serious questions, but they seek solutions in new forms of community activism and education efforts. As debates rage over what role the state should play in regulating community behavior, they consider whether the law can be mobilized in new ways to protect public health while affirming sexual freedom.

The essays collected in this volume represent a variety of activist and academic perspectives on the current public sex debates and their implications for the future of AIDS activism. Contributors include well-known activists and writers like: Priscilla Alexander, Allan Berube, Jay Blotcher, Lisa Duggan, Marc Elovitz, Stephen Gendin, Carol Leigh (a.k.a. Scarlet Harlot), Scott O'Hara, Jocelyn Taylor, Kendall Thomas, and others. Their diverse voices and radical thinking will appeal to a broad readership, including health practitioners, students, and intellectuals who are committed to queer politics and AIDS activism. Dangerous Bedfellows consists of a group of New York-based writers and activists. ▼

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Less than zero

by Deborah Peifer

Silent Words by Joan M. Drury; Spinster Ink, \$10.95

This week's question concerns nomenclature. If an otherwise reputable company releases a not-at-all-good book written by its "publisher and chief editor," is that press permanently or only temporarily transformed into a vanity press? My own feeling is that Spinster Ink did itself no small injury by publishing Joan Drury's *Silent Words*, a tedious and painfully contrived effort at amateur detective fiction.

Start with the mystery. The dying mother of Tyler Jones, our newspaper columnist/sleuth, tells her daughter, "Go home. To Minnesota.... Shake the skeletons in the closet.... It's time for the truth." The truth about what, you wonder? Well, that's just what our uninformed investigator has to discover.

Now, I haven't died, but it seems to me that if I wanted someone to seek out the truth, revealing the topic would be a reasonable choice. Of course, had the moribund mama done so, Tyler Jones would not have been able to spend the first hundred pages or so blithering and blathering about. The villains are no mystery to the reader, however, because Drury makes them so obvious that no one with a passing knowledge of English could be fooled. And if I tell you that



Anne K. Marsden

our hero is rescued by a dog, yes, a dog ("What's that, Lassie? You say Timmy is trapped in a cave?"), does that give you a big enough clue about the absurdity

Someone told Drury that detail is a good thing, because she gives us laundry lists ad nauseam.

of the plot details?

Mystery, or non-mystery, aside, Drury fails in matters of characterization and style as well. Her characters are mono-dimensional and difficult to distinguish from one another. Because they are not differentiated, their relationships, vital to a tale of family secrets, are a confused and confusing mishmash.

hamburger, hot dogs, chops, mounds and mounds of food." Fascinating? Necessary? I think not.

Silent Words is an overlong, underwritten, dreary novel. It ranks a negative number on the mystery scale and lower than that as a novel. Drury could have done us all a favor by keeping *Silent Words* to herself. ▼

More than a mystery

by Paul Bollwinkel

Simple Justice by John Morgan Wilson; Doubleday, \$21

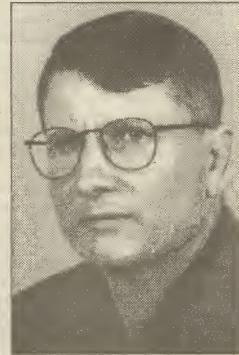
Benjamin Justice is not exactly an ideal role model for gay America. The hero of *Simple Justice*, a new mystery by first-time novelist John Morgan Wilson, Justice is a burned-out, near-alcoholic journalist whose celebrated *LA Times* series on AIDS becomes a scandal that forces him to return a Pulitzer Prize. The humiliation he feels over the loss of his reputation and livelihood, combined with the AIDS death of his partner, leave

Justice feeling lonely, reclusive, unsure and indifferent about the future. To make things worse, he is living with horrible memories of an abusive father, a heroin-addicted sister and a violent family murder.

Justice's torpor ends when he makes a hesitant return to the newspaper game after a young gay playboy is murdered outside a West Hollywood gay bar. When an unlikely suspect, a Chicano teenager, confesses to the murder, Justice becomes suspicious and reluctantly agrees to write a background piece on the slaying for a sleazy tabloid, *The Los Angeles Sun*. His investigation leads to troubling questions: Why would a teenager with no history of gangs or drugs commit what appears to be a random murder? And if he didn't do it, why the confession?

Wilson's story, told in the first person by Justice, allows him to explore the less glamorous side of celebrity-obsessed Southern California, where everyone seems to have something to hide, including: the suspect's family; the handsome but sexually confused Korean man Justice picks up in a bar; the gay black former pro-football star turned bartender he interviews; the closeted lesbian tennis star he confronts in a seaside villa; and a U.S. senator who crassly exploits the murder for the sake of his re-election campaign. All know more than they are willing to say.

The plot elements of *Simple Justice* are fairly routine: red herrings, characters ominously slipping into the shadows, a grab bag of likely suspects, and a resolution



John Morgan Wilson

that won't surprise regular consumers of mysteries.

It can't be easy to write a murder mystery that doesn't telegraph its ending early on. With the plethora of crime shows on TV, countless murder mysteries at the movies, and hundreds of books like this one published every year, it's hard to imagine plots, settings and characters that haven't already been explored. Ironically, fans of the genre crave the repetition of the very elements that make it hard for them to be "tricked." But by downplaying the outcome of the murder investigation, Wilson puts the emotional emphasis on a second unanswered question. What happened in the life of a successful journalist to make him knowingly risk his career by writing something considered unethical by his Pulitzer peers? ▼

BOOKS

Annual book fest is plenty queer

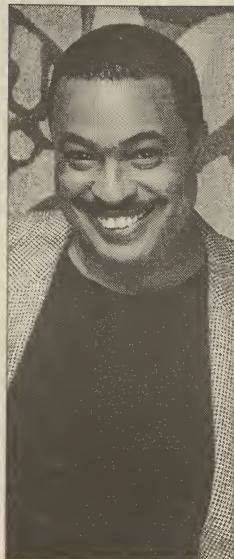
The 7th annual San Francisco Bay Area Book Festival gets underway Nov. 2-3 at the Concourse Exhibition Center, Eighth and Brannan Streets (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Participants this year include many lesbian and gay authors, including **Leroy Aarons, Ellen Bass, Brian Bouldrey, Phyllis Burke, Bernard Cooper, Katherine V. Forrest, E. Lynn Harris, James Earl Hardy, Alan Helms, Jennifer Levin, Michael Nava, Kitty Tsui, Dave Tuller, Mary Wings, Terry Wolverton**, and others.

Gay/lesbian panels at this free event will cover a variety of topics, from E. Lynn Harris on "What's Love Got to Do With It? Eroticism in Black Fiction" (Sunday, 12:30 p.m.) to Bernard Cooper and Alan Helms on a panel about writing.

memoirs (Sunday, 3:30 p.m.), Michael Nava and Katherine V. Forrest host an informal dialogue about mystery writing, "The Mystery of Writing, Shared" (Sunday, 11 a.m.), and cyberqueers shouldn't miss **Elizabeth Reba Weise** holding forth on the "Cyber-Rights" panel (Sunday, 12 p.m.).

Saturday brings choreographer and performer Remy Charlip on the Children's Stage (11:30 a.m.), a reading by Alice Walker (12:30 p.m.), and mystery maven Mary Wings on "Gumshoe, Flygirls and Werewolves" (3 p.m.).

The Book Festival also offers 330 publisher and independent bookseller booths, cooking demonstrations, six professional publishing seminars, a CyberPark, and more. For program information, call 908-2833. ▼



E. Lynn Harris

LECTURE

Author of Joffrey book at SFPALM

The first in-depth portrait of the 40-year-old Joffrey Ballet, *Sasha Anawalt's (right) Joffrey Ballet: Robert Joffrey and the Making of an American Dance Company*, brings Joffrey to light as a creative maverick who built a truly American ballet when most thought only the Russians could master the form. *Publisher's Weekly* noted, "(Joffrey) emerges as a gutsy entrepreneur who struggled against underfunding, homophobia, and a hierarchical arts system." Anawalt (right) delivers a slide-show lecture on Joffrey, the history of his dance company, and on the uneasy relationship between the arts, business, and politics in this country on Nov. 7 (7 p.m.) at the SF Ballet Building, 455 Franklin Street. The event is sponsored by the SF Performing Arts Library and Museum. Please RSVP: (415) 255-4800. ▼



Clark Hartman

Get On The Bus

◀ page 50

ment pervades the film.

Randall (Harry Lennix) and Kyle (Isaiah Washington) are two gay men who respond to the call for black men to unite. At the time they board the bus, Randall and Kyle are ending their relationship, in part because Randall is unwilling to accept Kyle's refusal to come out of the closet. Kyle is a war veteran and a Republican. The story threatens to explode early as Randall "outs" Kyle by stating the true nature of their relationship for all the other passengers to hear. Instantly, the bigoted Flip reacts and sets up a tense confrontation with the "faggots on the bus."

The scene de-escalates somewhat hurriedly. The reactionary Flip attacks Randall while the other men awkwardly try to sort out their feelings. Kyle delivers a tougher response, threatening Flip if he doesn't "quit riding my ass without permission." Finally, there is a call to "leave them

alone," perhaps in the spirit of unity. (A more probable explanation is that everyone is stuck with each other for the duration of the trip.) The script lurches away from the confrontation, but that scene and those that follow aptly depict the precarious exclusion so many black gay men experience at the hands of homophobic brothers.

Ironically, there is no mention in *Get On the Bus* that Baynard Rustin, architect of the original 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington, was homosexual. Nevertheless, Spike Lee, Harry Lennix, and Isaiah Washington all deserve credit for presenting audiences with two men who are sane, black, gay and not caricatures of themselves. ▼

Get On the Bus is in general release.

Ron Hypolite is the publisher of *Departure Point*, a Bay Area African American newsletter, and Chair of Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA).

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman

Erection day

Finally, political sideshow season builds to its climax, explodes in orgasms of civic suffrage, then slinks off, debased, into the shadows. If the Presidential race has been like a sordid little beauty pageant between some of the ugliest hams in town, at least on Tuesday we can grant them early (or, in the Evil Pen-holder's case) overdue retirement.

The odious Newt Gangrene has suggested recently in the national press that "the time [has] come to reestablish shame as a means of enforcing proper behavior." We heartily agree. Shame, then, on the state GOP for trying to steal Martin Luther King, Jr.'s good name for their despicable efforts to gut opportunities for people of color! Vote No on Evil Prop. 209!

Shame on the deranged slug Dan Lung-rot for trying to use sick and dying people as stepping-stones for his own blackhearted aspirations! Support medical marijuana!

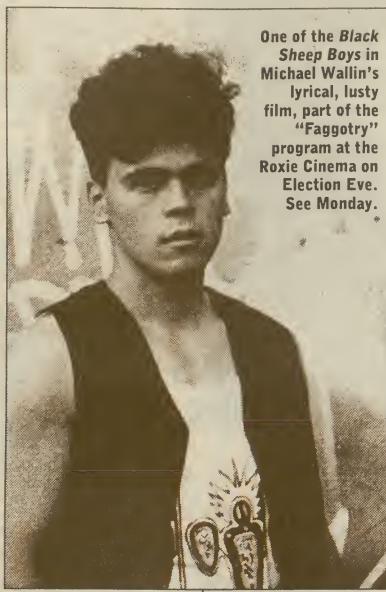
Shame on the power-besotted political machine which tries to ramrod through its questionable choice for judge, and besmirch the reputations of investigative journalists!

Shame on the Log Cabinet Club ("Men who trust too much") for rolling over and endorsing Dole after his campaign returned their check! "Hurt me, Daddy, humiliate me!"

And shame on the modern homosexual who can't be bothered to vote, even with so many slimy machinations afoot. ▼



Steve Silver Productions



One of the *Black Sheep Boys* in Michael Wallin's lyrical, lusty film, part of the "Faggotry" program at the Roxie Cinema on Election Eve. See Monday.

Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 346-3107.

Robert Moses' Kin

With choreographer/performer Jimmy Turner: dance which uses ballet, hip hop, and jazz. Tonight thru Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$12.50-18.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Utterly Mum

Dance, theatre and telephones, choreographed by Elise Brewin, Elizabeth Solomon, Nancy I. Kelly. Fri. Sun. at 8pm. \$10. ODC Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Sat

All Souls' Day

Vespers of the Dead and Solemn Requiem Mass service. 6pm. Church of the Advent, 261 Fell. 431-0454.

Altar of Remembrance

Dignity/SF observes All Souls Day/Dia de Los Muertos with prayer service, followed by potluck lunch. 11am. AIDS Memorial Grove, Golden Gate Park. 681-2491.

Beer Bust

SF Leather Daddy XIV Loren Berthelsen presents Brown Bag Beer Bust, benefits AIDS Emergency Fund. \$6 beer/soda. 3-6pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro.

Book Fest

SF Bay Area Book Festival, panels include "Pink Ink I."

Hair

"The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical" featuring a student-directed multicu cast. Thurs.-Sun. thru 11/9. Free. Tonight at 8pm. Rm. 203, Arts and Industry Bldg., SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-2467.

Hello... (transition)

Stormie M. Graham's performance piece: electric guitar stylings and revelation. \$10 (includes CD). 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Hong Kong Memories

Patrick Lee's play: Hong Kong on the verge of '97. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/3, call for times. \$13-15. Tonight at 8pm. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Margaret Jenkins Dance Co.

Premiere of "Fault" performed with the Paul Dresher Ensemble. Thurs.-Sat. thru 11/9 at 8pm. \$20-28. Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Martha Roth

Reading from her novel "Goodness," free. 7pm. Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond. 586-3733.

Musty Chiffon

Busty rock & roll drag chanteuse sings live. Thurs. 11/3. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Opera Grand

"And Not So Grand," famous opera choruses presented by the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF. \$15-25. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 861-7067.

Relative Values

Chamber Theatre's production of Noel Coward's comedy runs Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 11/24. \$18.

(Sat., 11am), "Pink Ink II" (Sun., 2pm), booths, seminars, readings. Sat. & Sun., 10am-6pm. \$2. Concourse Exhibit Ctr., 8th & Brannan. 908-2833.

Brinca

18+ older, "Latin House Party," mixed crowd. \$10. 520 4th St. 2-BRINCA.

Cabaret

TheatreWorks presents the decadent musical. Tues.-Sun. thru 11/3. \$20-28. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. Mountain View Ctr. for Perf. Arts, Castro & Mersey, Mountain View. 903-6000.

Dia de Los Muertos

Day of the Dead procession starts 7pm at Mission Cultural Center, Mission betw. 24th/25th (864-1450). Reception for "Origines" artists, 3-6pm. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Gay Comedy Night

Bridget Schwartz, Andre the Wonderwoman, Musty Chiffon. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Halloween: The Plays

The Sick and Twisted Players' double-feature fright fest, starring Omewenne as Jamie Lee Curtis. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 11/2. \$10-15. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 826-5358.

James Earl Hardy

Author of "Second Time Around" reads, free. 6pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

The Lesbian Erotic:

"Pictures from 1975-1995," exhibit of pioneering lesbian photographers including Phyllis Christopher, Honey Lee Cottrell, Jill Posner, more. Sat. & Sun. 2-5pm thru 11/3. Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of No. Calif., 973 Market. 777-5455.

Lesbigay Radio

Queer music & comedy: pundits, politicians & pioneers. Sat. nights at Midnight. 1450 AM. 1-800-GAY-6550.

Like A Mother Bear

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents Helen Stoltzfus in a solo performance. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 11/17. \$12-15. AT/IT, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Living with AIDS

Drawings and etchings of PWAs by Frances Binnington. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Reception today, 3pm. Project Open Hand, 1166 Howard. 252-1931.

Rebecca Riots

Playing with the Hail Marys, Manna, benefits Runright Survivors Activist Coalition to end child sexual abuse. \$7-50. 8pm. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 643-3946.

Spiral Dance

Z. Budapest presents 13th Annual Women's Spiral Dance & Ritual. 7pm. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. (510) 444-7724.

Sun

A Day of Remembrance

SF Gay Men's Chorus in concert, benefits AIDS organizations. Panels from Quilt on display. \$12-35. 5pm. Grace Cathedral, 1100 California. 749-6350.

80 Something

'80s new wave and rock, DJ Paul Crukshank. \$2. 9pm-2am. Stud, 9th & Harrison.

Four Saints in Three Acts

SF Chamber Singers perform concert version of Virgil Thompson/Gertrude Stein opera. \$18. 7:30pm. First

Dia de los Muertos festivities at Galeria de la Raza and in the streets of the Mission. See Saturday.



Ruben Garman

Francis Jue stars as the Emcee in TheatreWorks' production of "Cabaret" at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. See Saturday.



David Allen

Unitarian, Franklin & Geary. 771-3352.

Steve Dell

Photographs of male nudes, thru Nov. Reception today, performance by dancer Timothy Diaz, 4-6pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Transgender Forum

Community forum on problems faced by transgenders, free. 12:30pm. Bethany United Methodist, Sanchez & Clipper.

Mon

Faggotry

Lusty, poetic shorts: Curt McDowell's "Confessions," Michael Wallin's "Black Sheep Boy," Doug Mobley's "Joggernaught." \$6. 7&9:30pm. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. 863-1087.

Gay Berlin in the 20s

Course on early 20th Century queer culture in Berlin, Harvey Milk Institute. Mon. thru 11/18, 7pm. \$55. Build, 483 Guerrero. 552-7200.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Maureen Broadway. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Just Spit It Out:

"The Challenges of Mixed-Status Dating," a seminar of the Harvey Milk Institute. \$12. 7pm. EROS, 2051 Market. 552-9000.

Same Sex Swing

West Coast Swing dance classes for gay men & women, instructor Steve Rockwell. 7pm beginning, 8:30pm intermediate. Metronome Ballroom, 1830 17th St. 252-9000.

SFAI:

"Fifty Years of Photography" retrospective of works by faculty and alumni, incl. Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham, Annie Leibovitz. Mon.-Fri. thru 11/25. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery.

Tues

Commonplace Mysteries

"Photographs by Peter Hujar, Andrea Modica, and Bill Owens" exhibit. Thru 2/2. SF MOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Pieces of the Quilt

Short plays by Edward Albee, Jon Robin Baitz, Sandra Bernhard, more. Conceived by Sean San José Blackman as a mem'l to his parents, both of whom died of AIDS. Benefits Project Open Hand and The Names Project. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/21, call for times. \$15-21. Magic Theatre, Blvd. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Presidential Portraits

Liza Lou's hand-painted portraits of all 42 Presidents.

Election night gala. Prost. \$20.

6:30pm. Hotel Rex, 562 Sutter. 495-7101.

QTV

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Refiguring Nature

"Women in the Landscape" photography exhibition includes Linda Connor, Nina Glaser, Ana Mendieta. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/23. SF Camera-work, 115 Natoma. 764-1001.

Silent Art Auction

"For AIDS Advocacy" Works by over 60 artists, benefits ACT UP/East Bay. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/1. Berkeley Store Gallery, 2295 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 568-1680.

Splendors of Imperial China

Survey of treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8. \$9.50. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Women with Balls

The only women-ruled stand-up comedy room in SF. Tues. at 8pm. \$5. Cat's Grill, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wed

After These Messages

Exhibition exploring American media, culture and individual identity. Thru 11/20. Student Center Art Gallery, SFSU, 1650 Holloway. 338-2580.

Beat Culture

"And the New America: 1950-1965" exhibition of painting, sculpture, film, installations, music and spoken word. Thru 12/29. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Carousel

Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical, romance between carnival barker and mill worker. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/10. \$32-55. Golden Gate Theatre, Taylor at Market.

776-1999.

Desde Lejos Vienen

"They Come From Afar," Day of the Dead altars. Thru 11/10. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason.

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 11/10. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Lawrence Pech Dance Co.

World premieres of two new ballets by Pech. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 11/10. \$20-25. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Kitty Tsui

Reading from her lesbian erotica collection, "Breathless," free. 7:30pm. Boadicea's, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Medea, the Musical

John Fisher's hit play. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 11/10. \$25-29. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 433-9500.

Party

David Dillon's comedy: seven gay friends play "Facts and Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 12/2, call for times. \$20-25. Tonight at 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 11/1. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

The Rose Tattoo

ACT presents Tennessee Williams' comedy of love and redemption on the Gulf Coast. Tues.-Sun. thru 11/24, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$19-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Seascape

Aurora Theatre Co. presents Edward Albee's Pulitzer prize-winning play. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 11/10. \$18-20. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant, Berkeley. (510) 843-4822.

Women with Balls

The only women-ruled stand-up comedy room in SF. Tues. at 8pm. \$5. Cat's Grill, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Shedding a Straightjacket:

"Homophile Civil Rights/ Homosexual Liberation 1961-1966" exhibit exploring early gay rights movement, thru 11/14. Gay and Lesbian Center, New Main Library. 338-2580.

Trick

Genderfuck cabaret, every Thurs. 9pm-2am. \$5. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 331-9595 x300.

Two Beats

Exhibition of photographs by Allen Ginsberg, paintings and drawings by Robert LaVigne. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Deadline is the
Friday before
issue date.

Thur

Barbara Wilson

Feminist publishing icon from her new novel, "If You Had a Family," free. 7:30pm. Bernal Books, 401 Cortland. 550-0293.

Crossing the Frontier:

"Photographs of the Developing West, 1849 to the Present" exhibit, thru 1/5. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Katharina Fritsch

This Week's Dinner Specials

PRIME RIB with baked potato and creamy horseradish.9.95

Chicken Stroganoff with mushrooms, marsala wine & sour cream, served over fettucini.8.95

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BUDDIES

art © Ira Smith

Leather sashes for Palm Springs and San Jose

by Mister Marcus

The march toward the 1997 International Mr. Leather title has been underway for some weeks now, and the roster of aspirants grows almost weekly. Already, there have been contests in New Orleans; Roanoke, Va.; and Utica, N.Y. I have photos of the winners available for future printing.

In California, two more names will be added this November to the burgeoning list of those who will compete in Chicago next Memorial Day weekend. A man will also be chosen to compete at the International Mr. Bear contest next February.

In Palm Springs this weekend, the Palm Springs Leather Order of the Desert (PSLOD) will present its second annual Mr. Palm Springs Leather contest, beginning Friday, Nov. 1, with a check-in at the Cathedral City Boys Club at 1600 and a beer bust at Wolf's Den (with presentation of the contestants) at 2230.

On Saturday, Nov. 2, there's a leather mart at 1000 in the morning at CCBC, with a barbecue, S&M demos and a workshop from 1400 to 1500. Preliminary interviews begin at 1500; the contest itself starts at 2000 at Choices bar.

Next morning, the new Mr. Palm Springs Leather hosts the victory brunch while the leather mart continues, followed by the Mr. Metal Detector, Mr. Best Chest in the West and Mr. Wet Crotch contests — at CCBC. Proceeds from the weekend will benefit the Desert AIDS Project, spearheaded by producer Ed Keller and the PSLOD.

If you'll be in the vicinity, you can get in on the action by calling 619/325-8107. This is a great time of the year to visit Palm Springs. I'll be there helping to judge the contest and will have photos of the winner for you in the near future.

The next weekend, Nov. 7-10, the action shifts to Northern California when the San Jose-Southbay Leather (Santa Clara County) communities present Cirque de Sade, the Southbay LeatherFest '96, Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 7-10. The leatherfest includes a meet and greet, an "Erotique" fantasy show,



Intl. Ms. Leather Jill Carter will be the special guest at the benefit beer bust this Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Eagle.

workshops and three contests.

In addition to naming Mr./Ms. Santa Clara County Leather (on Saturday night), on Sunday, Nov. 10, they'll be selecting Mr. South Bay Bear. The leather and bear contests and the Cirque de Sade are at the Gaslighter Theatre in Campbell; the meet and greet on Thursday night for all three contests will be at Greg's Ballroom, hosted by outgoing sash holders Kevin Roche, Miranda von Stockhausen and the Southbay Bears.

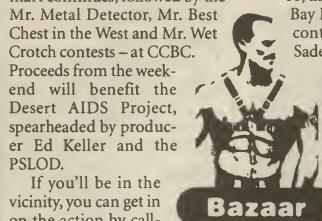
S&M workshops on Saturday afternoon are at the Billy De Frank Community Center. Fees? Thursday's event at Greg's Ballroom is free; the Erotique show on Friday is \$10, as is Saturday's leather contest and Sunday's bear contest.

The Gaslighter Theatre in Campbell is quite a place to have these soirées. Lenny Broberg and Shan Carr will share emcee duties at this historic site with a gay-friendly staff and full bar ser-

vice. If you need more information on entering the leather competitions or the weekend in general, call (408) 370-6325, or e-mail: SJLeather@aol.com. For the Southbay Bear competition, call 408/374-0403 or e-mail: rhois@rahul.net.

IMs.L Jill Carter returns

Former IMs.L Blair may not be in office anymore, but she periodically comes out to do a benefit. On Saturday, Nov. 2, 2100-2400, she's throwing a \$6 beer bust at the SF-Eagle to benefit Ward 7B at SF General Hospital. She's part of a star-studded leather cast that includes former Ms. SF Leather Queen Cougar as the emcee, Joseph Bean as the auctioneer, and B.C. Cliver and Jay Marston as the entertainment. Queen Cougar will perform a Willow Grove, Penn. fantasy with B.C. Cliver. This one should be "most interesting." The only one missing from this list of the "usual suspects" is Viola Johnson! Gads! If I didn't have a commitment in Palm Springs, I wouldn't miss this one for all the boots at Stompers!



Municipal Court judge candidate Kay Tsenin visited the Eagle beer bust on Sunday, Oct. 20, and mingled with Steve Gaynes (l) and Doug Stromberg (r). Don't forget to vote Nov. 5!

Mister Marcus

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, Oct. 31

It's Halloween! Most of the action will be at Halloween SF in the Civic Center, but don't count out the Castro. The Edge is having its first Halloween costume contest ever with prizes in five categories: best individual, best duo, best group, person with the most costume and person with the least costume. Danny Williams emcees.

The San Franciscans MC is having a beer bust at the Eagle, 2100-midnight, \$6, with nothing else mentioned. Up the street at Hamburger Mary's, Minnie Pearl Necklace at 1900, doing what they do best, and there's a \$15 cover at Club Townsend's "Spinning House" party, 2200-0400.

Weekend, Nov. 1-3

The Second Annual Mr. Palm Springs Leather Contest weekend in that desert oasis (see column).

Amsterdam Leather Pride week winds down with the selection of Mr. Drummer Europe on Friday, Nov. 1. Lots of J/O parties and leathermen there from all over Europe.

Saturday, Nov. 2

Defenders MC beer bust at the Lone Star, 1500-1900, \$6, benefit Women Organized to Respond to Life-Threatening Diseases (WORLD).

Brown bag beer bust at Daddy's, 1500-1800, \$6, with raffle tickets and cash prizes to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Former IMs. L Blair hosts benefit beer bust at the SF-Eagle, 2100-2400, with special guest, IMs. L Jill Carter. Queen Cougar will emcee; Joseph Bean will auction. Don't miss it!

Sunday, Nov. 3

Constantines MC Fall Field Meet and \$8 beer

bust at the Eagle (the new fall beer bust hours, 1500-1800). Raffles for turkeys to benefit the Sunburst Project.

Monday-Tuesday, Nov. 4-5

Daddy's Bar's first anniversary (see column).

Wednesday, Nov. 6

Madness continues with Daddy's owner Philip Turner celebrating the 40th anniversary of his 20th birthday! Drop in for some fun action.

Thursday, Nov. 7

Free anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, sponsored by Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project, 2000-2230. Everyone is welcome.

A \$6 all-you-can-drink beer bust at The Edge, 2000-2300. You could win \$100 in the Basket Contest, which begins at 2200 with Danny Williams doing the measuring.

Weekend, Nov. 7-10

Santa Clara County (San Jose, South Bay) Cirque de Sade Leatherfest (see column).

Weekend, Nov. 9-10

Cal Eagles MC \$65 overnight run to the RushRiv at the Triple R. Includes hospitality suite, hot tub, continental breakfast on Sunday. Leaving from Daddy's at 0930 Saturday morning. Space limited. Call 267-0665.

Sunday, Nov. 10

SF dungeon tour for \$75 (limited capacity), with refreshments on the bus and "live" dungeon parties with "real" players. Hosted by Steve Gaynes and Peter Fiske. Leaving from SF-Eagle at 1900. Call 861-6983 - Visa and MC accepted.

Venerable leather bird

The Eagle name is synonymous with leather bars around the world. Unlike Hard Rock Cafes and Planet Hollywoods, they are not part of a chain at all, but rather independently run and usually owned by genuine leather people. They can be counted on to be authentic leather enclaves in major urban centers around the world. Yes, yes, I know there have been (and still are) a few Eagle bars that are as far from leather as you can get, but leather people know which are "real" and which

anniversary (already!) next Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 4-5. The action begins at 2000 both nights, but there will be special drink prices all day both days.

On Monday night, free cloisonné anniversary pins for the first 500 people through the door and raffle tickets with each drink purchased for special prize drawings. Live entertainment Monday by Rick Weaver, with Employee of the Year award presentation.

On Tuesday Nov. 5, more raffle prizes for drinks purchased tickets, entertainment at 2130 by Fab-

that name for the contest. Does this mean Joe Gallagher will be Mr. NY Leather for life? Stay tuned. And all this time you thought the "spoilers" lived in San Francisco and San Jose! ▼



Frank Maas (l) and Mike McNamee, owners of SF's hot new Stompers store, display the booty at their local emporium, which is taking the leather community by storm.

are only capitalizing on the name. Well, the DC-Eagle is poised to celebrate its 25th anniversary this month, and the four-day celebration (with a black-and-silver theme) includes the usual hosted bar night, stunning new T-shirts, really stunning anniversary pins and the Mr. DC-Eagle contest (Nov. 27-30). If you're in the nation's capital during Thanksgiving Week, by all means, drop in (if you can get in!). And thanks to Ray Hall, the current Mr. DC-Eagle, who did a great job during his title year.

While we're on the subject of anniversaries, you'll want to know that Daddy's is celebrating its first

ulous World and Linda Imperial (performing her latest releases). Also on Tuesday, a leather Daddy's vest will be a raffle prize, so save your tickets from both nights!

Dot.dot@dish.com

Shit happens, as they say. The latest brouhaha is in the Big Apple, where the Carnival of Darkness, which includes the 1997 Mr. New York Leather contest on Saturday, Nov. 16, is slated to take place Nov. 15-17. The grinding ax here is former Mr. Northeast Drummer Joe Ricci, who claims that he owns the Mr. New York Leather title and AmFAR absolutely cannot use

ANNIVERSARY SALE

a taste of leather

FOLSOM

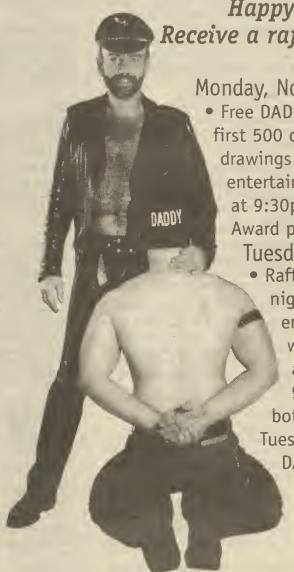


DADDY'S

1st Anniversary

A Two Day Gala!

November 4th & 5th, 1996



Happy Hour prices all day, both days!
Receive a raffle ticket with every drink purchased.

Monday, November 4th -

- Free DADDY'S Anniversary pin for first 500 customers
- Raffle prize drawings all day & night
- Live entertainment featuring Rick Weaver at 9:30pm
- Employee of the Year Award presentation

Tuesday, November 5th -

- Raffle prize drawings all day & night
- Party at 8:00pm
- Live entertainment featuring the world-renowned recording artist Linda Imperial at 9:30pm
- Raffle tickets from both days will be good for Tuesday night's drawing for a DADDY'S leather vest!

FUN

PRIZES

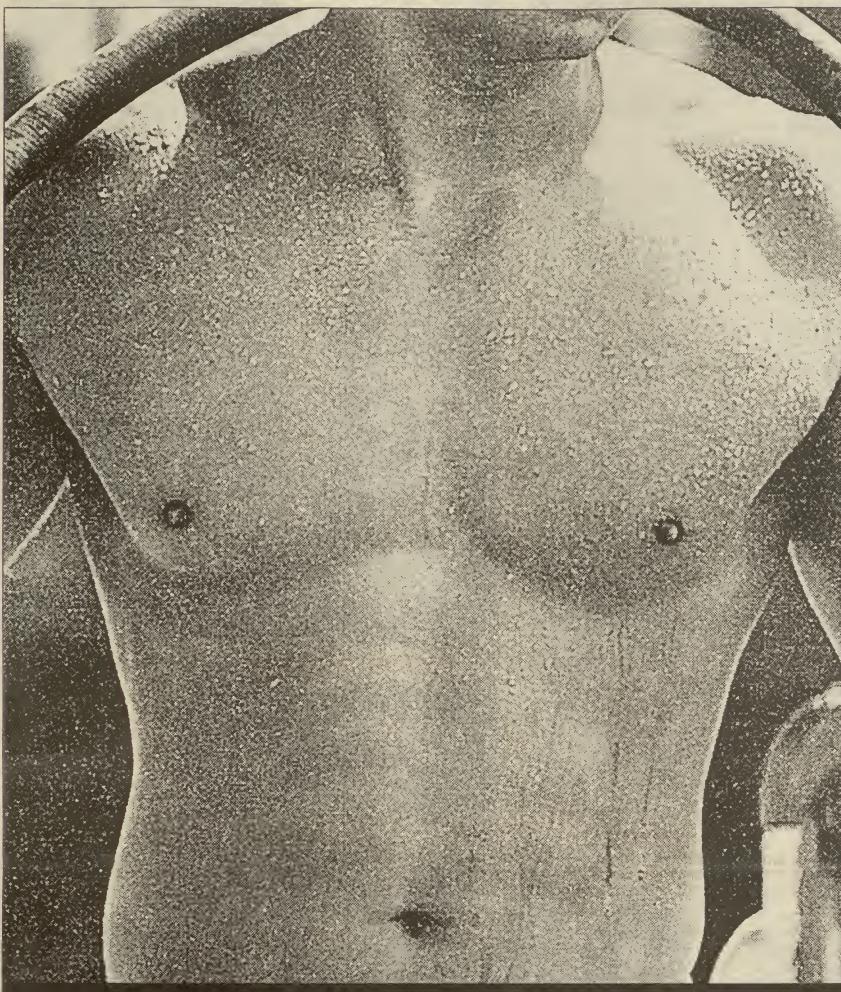
PARTY

DADDY'S
440 Castro Street,
San Francisco

Where the Daddies go,
the Boys are sure to follow!

This event is being produced by Philip Turner, SF Leather Daddy XI and owner of DADDY'S. The staff of DADDY'S wants to thank the entire community for its support during our first year.

BAR TALK



1.900.844.2227

Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

Available only on touch-tone phones in the Bay Area. You must be at least 18 years old to call.

PARTING GLANCES

Cafe Castro Street Fair 6 PM

Mark of Concord and from Alaska. Sorry we missed each other in the crowd. I wanted to spend some time with you. Please call! Tom of SF from Alaska. I liked your Winnie the Pooh tattoo! ☎ 3201.

Walnut Crk Hot Latin-Pony Tail DU's, 7/5. We made eye contact several times. Both of us w/friends. Me: GWM @ end of bar, Blond/h2z/Tan. Have dreamed about you. We talked, Liked walking w/you. Let's do more. Call me, Robert. ☎ 3203.

Chris With Hapsburg Tattoo Met you Castro fair. Loved your red hair & red kit. Liked walking w/you. Let's do more. Call me, Robert. ☎ 3203.

Cuban Dancer Mike, we talked, tried to meet at Phoenix. I've tried to call, but your number is disconnected. I'm still very interested in hooking up. If you are too, get in touch. Dennis. ☎ 3204.

Dave Powerhouse Aft Folsom St. You: tall, dark short hair, org from Atlanta. Me: blbl, wearing harness, sitting by pool table. You went to check out the action, I lost you in the crowd. Would like to meet. Charlie. ☎ 3205.

Hndsm Bick Man; Walter St. 10/5 You: music, Sam. Sun afternoon w/your shirt unbuttoned. I waved & said, "Hi," as did you. Wish I'd said hi. We met years ago at Sam & Gaetano's. Have admired you since. Call. ☎ 3206.

Castro Fair Bear In black Reebok tank & shorts. Me: cowboy w/camera, no shirt. Finally got a photo of you. Could we meet for a drink? ☎ 3207.

Let's Finish What We Started! We plan to use steam room & showers at the gym midday on Thursday Oct. 3rd. We both have goatees—it was hot! Call me. ☎ 3208.

Seeking Relationship

I saw you at the Folsom Fair. You were in a wheelchair not in leather at all. You seemed to be tall like me, very good looking, came my way, but I turned away. I was in full leather, tall w/a yellow strip on my chaps. Call me if you are the one. ☎ 3203.

Badlands 10/2 5PM Latin Guy You: a cute, short, Mexican/Latin guy, had a dark coat, backpack & a garment bag. You sat in the front window, put your garment bag into your backpack. Me: tall, dark hair, brown shirt & jeans. Would like to meet you. Call. ☎ 3204.

Pasta Pomodoro/Castro St. Fair You said I looked sad, I said I was in my own world. Wished my friends stayed so I could have talked w/you. I introduced myself & left. Wish I had your #. Second chance? ☎ 3211.

Pozole's After The Castro Fair Our tables were adjacent. You: dark cap, sleeveless shirt. Me: short blonde hair, T-shirt & jeans. My friend broke a candle. We smiled at each other. Can we talk? ☎ 3212.

Mid Sept. Musc BM Church/Mrkt You: music, BM, at Church & Mrkt, head for coffee w/white female friend. Waived & smiled at me. Me: music, BM. Let's have coffee. ☎ 3213.

Looking For Allan, A Redhead Who lived on 14th Guerrero, 10-12 years ago. Saw you recently in the Mission (you didn't see me) & want to re-connect. ☎ 3242.

Canton On Castro Wed 10/9 8PM You: tall, clean shaven, in green, getting takeout. Me: leather jacket, leaving w/friend. Our eyes locked. My mind drifted. I'm like that, muddled. But also smart & kind. Any chance? ☎ 3209.

Fed Ex Man You: tall, clean shaven, in green, getting takeout. Me: leather jacket, leaving w/friend. Our eyes locked. I'm mind drifting. I'm like that, muddled. But also smart & kind. Any chance? ☎ 3202.

You Again, Castro St. Fair

Selling T's w/ "Gap" on sleeve at booth on Market...Often downtown & #45 to Union & Hyde. We spoke briefly. I'll never meet you but I was in full leather, tall w/a yellow strip on my chaps. Call me if you are the one. ☎ 3203.

Old Mint 5th & Mission 10/10 Now the Old Mint, 5PM. Mexican, goatee, sunglasses. You: Asian, carrying white envelope. You smoked on the stairs. I was too unsure. Please call! ☎ 3204.

Asian At Thai Diner

Asian (Thai)? at Thai diner restaurant, Thursday 10/10. You w/ long haired friend. Me: big guy. Our eyes met. Let's talk.

Superstar Video Wed 10/9 Warner Bros. sweatshirt, khaki shorts. You seemed to enjoy the view as much as I did. Let's skip the movie this time. ☎ 3206.

Kaiser Clinic, Mon 10/23 10AM

You were entering. I was leaving. Me: BM, striped shirt, black shoulder bag. You: the most gorgeous smile in SF. ☎ 3207.

Rober-We met at Grunberg Haus

October 10, 111. Time was very short, I meant it: "Hope to see you again." Robert, you left me breathless! Let's explore? Jon-LA/Pas (?) Remember? ☎ 3245.

Castro Yogurt Oct 17

You: dark hair, Warner Bros. ball cap, jeans, w/3 year old son/nephew? Me: I'm tall hair, medium BAR, tan shorts, dk bl shirt. Buy anything at Cliffs? Would like to meet. ☎ 3207.

Ponytail & Rollerblades

Sun 10/13 GG park. You: skating in tank, gms shorts. Me: short hair, black 4 dr, followed you. Interested? ☎ 3209.

Kabuki-Japan Center 10/12 9:30

Believe you introduced yourself to Tom. We sat in the locker area, restroom, lobby & by parking lot. You were extremely handsome. I'm Mike. Please call. ☎ 3210.

Mark In Touch Sat 10/12

You: Caucasian & cute as hell. Me: Asian-American. We spoke briefly. I asked if you were from LA. When have dinner or coffee sometime? I'd like to get in touch! ☎ 3211.

Peter, Safeway Checker

I bought groceries. Sun. 10/20, you complained about always working graveyard. Me: 6'1", br hair, leather jacket, goatee. Would like to see you. ☎ 3201.

Paul

Lost your #. You: black convertible Porsche on Chestnut 1/12/96. Call. ☎ 3208.

Crafts Fair 10/13 Guerneville

You were the hot number in shorts helping to take down booth, you walked by twice & we said hi. Wish you would stop by. ☎ 3202.

Safeway's on Market St. 10/17

You were entering. I was leaving. Me: BM, striped shirt, black shoulder bag. You: the most gorgeous smile in SF. ☎ 3207.

Welcome Home Restaurant 9/29

It was 10:30AM. You were in full leathers, sitting at the wall, alone. I was the person w/white high & tight haircut, in leathers. In the front. Please call. ☎ 3204.

On the Beach Wed 10/14 2PM

You: dark hair, shades, red baseball cap. Me: silver hair, shades. I kick myself, I was too dumb to offer you a hand. Give me another chance. ☎ 3206.

Afternoon/ Streetlight Bookstore

You: WM, brown hair, blue eyes, in blue T-shirt, blk jeans. Me: Asian, wht T-shirt, blue jeans. It was Thursday 10/17, 1:30 PM. We looked at each other too shy to talk...Call me. ☎ 3208.

Sparky's Oct 19/20 3AM Outside

We plan to do it in leather coat w/friend in leather coat. I got out of Range Rover dressed in black w/Asian friend. Call me. ☎ 3209.

Castro Sat 10/19

You: very attractive wearing a green jacket, w/friend. Me: black hair, goatee. We exchanged Hello's in a shop. I was too embarrassed by my two friends to approach. Call me. ☎ 3210.

Joe - Dan, Barry from San Diego Met at Badlands on 10/10. Had a great time. Missed our next meeting. Call me for more massage & great times! ☎ 3211.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Some Have Tried, They Weren't GdLking sincere, Asian, Mid 40's, 5'9", 150#, HIV+, very good health. Seeking mid-life soulmate w/compassion & compensation. You: GWL, well built over 5'9", a gentle friend mine until the time's end. ☎ 3214.

Professional GWM Seeks GBM GWM, 38, 6'1", 200#, dark hair/eyes, NS/ND, seeks GBM wanting a stable relationship. Be clean cut, masculine, NS/ND. Muscular a+. Be in w/rt proportionate. ☎ 3215.

GAM Seeks GWM For friendship, possibly more! I'm 19, gdkng, romantic, ready for dating again. You: 18-30, NS/ND, HIV-. Let's get together & see what happens! ☎ 3216.

Seeking Relationship You: Harley Biker, black hair, lots of leather & looks hot. Me: full leather, Mr. Biker look, tall, gdkng, HIV-, independent, 280#, blue eyes, white hair, top (but I can swing both ways). I like fantasy trips & call me & let's talk. ☎ 3217.

Lonely Asian Sking Bottom Man I'm top, Asian. I'm healthy & looking for sincere, warm, honest, like a father type of person. Age over 50 years old. ☎ 3218.

River Phoenix Incarnation Seeks gentleman for romantic rendezvous & political brotherhood. 22 yo model, Buddhist dreamer. ☎ 3219.

Black Man 40, HIV+, 6'1" Dreds, beard looking for companion & friend. I'm into walks, cooking, music, hiking, camping. I'm not looking for a sex buddy. I'm celibate, vegetarian & into various spiritual practices. ND/NS/ND I'm a musician music teacher & masseur. I live in the mountains of Mendocino County. ☎ 3220.

If You Treat Me Nice I'll treat you better. 36 yr, Filipino seeking GWM, 35-45, for travel, dining, theater & more. Beard/mustache or goatee, Giants, 49ers A+. ☎ 3221.

GWMP Seeks Similar GWM Ying 52, 5'8", 145#. You are 35+, affectionate, w/feet firmly on the ground. Prefer versatile top. Alameda A+. ☎ 3222.

Couple Seeks Asian GWM, 40's, HIV+, seeks attractive Asian third for romance, maybe more. Twice the heat, twice the attention. ☎ 3223.

Platonic GdLking Slim Retired Guy. Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy. Non-sexual. Interested: music, opera, politics, science, etc. smoke, bars OK. Restaurants No! ☎ 3224.

Buffed GBM 4 Quality GWM Muscled, masculine, attractive & intelligent, intensely spirited African-American professional seeks handsome, mainstream, socially confident, mature, witty, "gym-toned" Euro-American hunks...for sex, laughs, friendship...maybe more! ☎ 3212.

Quality Seeks Quality Seeks a man who is intelligent, compassionate, caring, witty, adventurous, inquisitive, WM, 6', 175#, black hair, ice blue eyes, handsone. Race unimportant. ☎ 3213.

Body Positive We are a social group for healthy minded, HIV+ men. We have monthly parties, social, as well as, special weekend events. This is a great way to meet new friends. ☎ 3214.

Duluth To San Francisco? GWM, 22, nursing student, very fit & athletic. seeks Latino/black male for age/relationship. US: Daddy/Master, 50+. Then you earn my respect, possible affection. Limits discussed & program to expand them. ☎ 3412.

Palo Alto I Need a Man! Hello, my name is Butch. I'm 31, 180#, 6'2", br/bl, & shy. If you live in Palo Alto to San Jose area. Daddy Top, hairy & 50+, & hot. Call me. ☎ 3413.

HIV+: Good Physical Condition 5'10", 175#, decent body, av looks, fitness conscious, many interests. Attracted to women, not men. I'm 35, 180#, muscular or not 50, in good physical shape OK. 20 out of shape keep walking. Race unimportant! Me: GBM. ☎ 3414.

Opposites Attract? They Say! GWM, exec, 40, HIV-, facial hair, cut, oral, smokers, grounded, heartful seeking cut, GWM, 38-52, w/face hair, non biz exec, Ex: Bricklayer, Firefighter, waiter, for LTR. ☎ 3415.

Are You a Real Man? 32yo, gdkng GWM. Romantic, responsible, employed, relationship minded, sexually expressive, versatile, HIV+. Desires LTR w/white right man. Get back what you put into our relationship. You be 29-35, White/Latin Ov. ☎ 3416.

Tired of the Games? Me Too! Healthy, attractive, HIV-, 37, bl/bl, 170#, well built. Looking for fun 30-40, for fun, friendship & possibly more. You: be healthy, top to wers, w/positive attitude. Enjoy quiet times to occasional dance party. ☎ 3417.

Special for Straight, Married. Older gentleman is fit & erotic. Ready for your activity, your way. Safe, secure. Sun-set. ☎ 3418.

GBM Sks SF Lover 2 move 2 in 97 Seattle GBM, 37, 6', 240#, top, sincere, seeks a bottom, NS, HIV-GM to relocate in 97. Let's meet in Seattle or SF & get to know each other. ☎ 3419.

Sweet/Hndsm/Sexy/Funny/HIV+ I'm 5'10", 180#, bl/bl, top, hairy butt, GWM, 36, 5'8", 145#, HIV+, for great relationship. I love dinners, movies, cuddling, oral sex, day trips, quite nights, 49er games. ☎ 3420.

Wanted: Geeky Boyfriend Me: GWM, 26, 5'8", 30' waist, stocky, br;br, clean-cut, honest, old-fashioned, smart, funny, grad student. Looking for similar: smart, white guy, 21-30, for romance. The geekier, the better. ☎ 3421.

I am Asian Bottom

Seeking Top GWM, age 35-50 & warm,

Sincere, honest person. I am 35 yr, 5'6", 130#. ☎ 3430.

Rare GAM Seeks Possible LTR Born in Shanghai, 48 looks 30ish, attractive 5'9", 150#, gym-toned, hot body. Loves music of Phillip Glass & art of Irving Norman. Seeks GM under 38, Spiritual, sexy, fit & true yourself. ☎ 3322.

Blue-Eyed Bayou Boy Born, pre-pubescent, 150 1 man (25-40) who is masculine, interested in the world, somewhat dominant/topisch in bed-egalitarian in relationships. Smoker preferred. ☎ 3323.

Looking 4 Special 1 GAM 30, 5'6", 145#, HIV-, attractive, humorous, smart, passionate w/many interests. ISO GWM/GM between 25-40, HIV+, proportional. For friendship maybe more. ☎ 3324.

Are You Dark & Handsome? 30 yr old Eurasian 6'1", 180#, seeks mature, intelligent, masculine man for romantic friendship. ☎ 3325.

New To San Francisco GWM, 38, 5'11", 160#, looking to meet new friends. Interests: interests: music, exploring the outdoors, the arts, food, music & adventure. Masculine, sincere, friendly, open, seeking same. ☎ 3326.

ISO Japanese Lover (0 Bears) White teddy bear, 36, ISO younger, thin, hard-bodied, short, uncult oral sex, great kisser & cuddler. Other interests: books, scrabble, Star Trek, B5, sports. ☎ 3327.

Affectionate? Friendly, intelligent, attractive GWM, 32, seeks other GMs for huggin, kissing, cuddling, etc. I'm 5'7", 135#, HIV+, use crutches. You're 21-40, kind, honest, HIV-. ☎ 3328.

Seeking Col Like Leather Master

Be sane, clean, muscular, hairy, HIV+. Located, develop, hot, handsome 5'8", shaved swimmer frogging boy for BB, SD, masochism, natural mouth & ass service piece. No balls, don't call. ☎ 3329.

Friends First! Sex Later Educated GAM, 34yo, 5'3", 145#. Enjoy weight lifting, natural & life sciences, Star Trek, B5, horror movies, art. Seeks HIV-, non-Asian, 25-45 yo, w/similar interests. Science-minded man A+. No fucking, S&M drugs. ☎ 3330.

SM Shamanism

Look for master interested in Shamanism wants independent and/or masochist 20-45 yo for partnership. Be in shape. I'm 5'9", 180#, handsome, uncut, muscular, sadist. Serious only. ☎ 3331.

36 yo College Student Looks I'm 6', HIV-, white/blk, killer smile. Photography student, enjoys chess, walks on beach ISO Latin/white male under 40. Warm, loyal, masculine-not a Castro boy & drug free. ☎ 3332.

European Born Latin Lover

Mid 20's, 6', 170#, brn/bl, killer smile. Photography student, enjoys chess, walks on beach ISO Latin/white male under 40. Warm, loyal, masculine-not a Castro boy & drug free. ☎ 3333.

Drummer Daddy

Are you man enough to take rough treatment like BB, TT, CBT, & whipping by a 6', 170#, Daddy/Master, 50+. Then you earn my respect, possible affection. Limits discussed & program to expand them. ☎ 3412.

Palo Alto I Need a Man!

Hello, my name is Butch. I'm 31, 180#, 6'2", brn/bl, & shy. If you live in Palo Alto to San Jose area. Daddy Top, hairy & 50+, & hot. Call me. ☎ 3413.

Special for Straight, Married.

Older gentleman is fit & erotic. Ready for your activity, your way. Safe, secure. Sun-set. ☎ 3418.

Cute At 20's 5'11", 165#, HIV-, w/white boots, ropes, collars, chaps. Want to enjoy quiet evenings watching TV while HIV+, 25-45 yo. Under 5'9". ☎ 3317.

GWM Professional 31, 5'11"

Haze/brown stocky framed seeks receptive perceptive boy/man to share his time, tender moments. Not into bar scene. GWM/GLM, 23-28, 165#, HIV-, like, NS, like drink OK. ☎ 3318.

Biker Bud Wanted Leather Sex

Motorcycle buddy wanted for leather fun & rides, sex, must have own motorcycle. "Let's ride." Me: slim, 180#, 6'2", brn/eyes/hair, body hair. ☎ 3319.

Attractive Chinese Male

GAM, 26, HIV-, gdkng, 130#, 5'7", smart, humor, professional. Seeking GWM/GLM, 21-26, HIV-, masculine guy for relationship & friendship. ☎ 3320.

Longhair & Longhair Like Me

Cute 10-20's, 5'10", 145#, broad shoulders, dk/black hair natural, health fanatic, loves Glam rock, oral gentle sharing. ☎ 3321.

I am Asian Bottom

Seeking Top GWM, age 35-50 & warm,

Sincere, honest person. I am 35 yr, 5'6", 130#. ☎ 3430.

Old Faithful Cockslucking Svc.
Big loads, beat big dicks you'll agree!
Feel for what all you've been
missing as I summon & swallow your
spurting cream, regularly as your
"full mouthful" production warrants! ☎ 3422.

HIV+ Tattooed Pierced Liking 47
31yo, good shape, 5'11", 190w, gentle
into alt lifestyle, art, music, body art, I'm
Filipino/German, handsome, artistic, your
intimate love to cuddle. Versatile mostly
top. Looking for a guy w/same likes &
interests, 20-40, open & masculine & hand-
some. ☎ 3423.

Desire: Oral JO LTR
GWM, 40', 5'10", 170#, muscular,
handsome, desires oral & JO LTR. Not into
anal. Love tit/play & kissing, romance,
very sincere. Dating & if chemistry is
right, LTR. ☎ 3424.

Honest Hot Handsome HIV+
GWM, 38, 6'2", 185#, aggressive &
masculine w/dark hair, mustache, very
handsome who enjoys gym, football, base-
ball, dinners, quiet time. You GWM,
preferably top, masculine, enjoys life man
to man. ☎ 3425.

Unlock the Mystery I'm Your Man
Excitement, passion, & affection. GWM
seeks GM for dating. I'm 37, 6'10", 180#,
slim build, nice features, blk hair, goatee
& dark eyes. Enjoy music, hot springs. Get
ready! ☎ 3426.

Athletic Asian
49, 5'9", 150#, seeks smooth, clean-
shaved, gym-bred WM into hiking, work-
outs, sports, dancing, arts, & travel for
urban & wilderness adventures. ☎ 3427.

Attractive Latino 25

I'm 5'7", 165#, dark hair, brown eyes,
olive complexion. Seeking Latinos or Ca-
ucasians, 21-34, for friendship maybe LTR.
☎ 3428.

Where Do You Start?
I thought I found my LTR thru these
pages. I met a lot of great & caring people
but not "the one." Three times the
charm? Me: GWM, 36, 6'1", 165#,
ND/NS. You: GM, 30-40's, mature &
ready 4 LTR! ☎ 3429.

What You See is What You Get
I'm looking for a GWM, GHM, HIV-, 30-
40, for friendship, relationship. I have a
lot of open minded, S/D OK. SF only
please. ☎ 3431.

Wanted: Hungry Subm. Bottom
For lasting relationship by hot man 58'
5'9", 130#, good build, I'm aggressive,
very verbal & caring. Call if you have a
need to please & serve. Thank you! ☎
3432.

Europe Anywhere?
Travel & possibly live in Europe w/gtr-
attractive, masculine, caring professional. You
are younger, trim, & honest w/an interest
in art & languages. ☎ 3474.

Seeking Middle Eastern Ways
Caucasian guy, 5'10", 30, grew up in
Britain seeks masculine, friendly Arab
man for friendship. Want to show the
ways of the Middle East, & make new
Arab friends (shabab), to understand
Islam better. ☎ 3475.

Redhead for Dating/LTR
Hunk, passionate, educated GWM
(red/bl, 5'8", 143#), late 40's, seeks GM,
any race, 30-45, for dating/LTR. US: HIV-
, trim/in shape, versatile, urban interests,
NS/ND. ☎ 3476.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Smooth Hungry Black Butt
GWM, 42, looks younger, HIV+,
5'9", 135#, wants aggressive tops,
20-45, needs to be spanked, fucking &
fucking. Must like fucking, slender, blk, super
tight butt. You can if you like. Serious only. ☎ 3225.

Big Dick, Versatile, Lasting
GWM, 35, 5'11", handsome, normal, out
of shape but a slim 157#, wants similar
well hung vers or couple for long fuck
sessions. 35-50 preferred! ☎ 3226.

Pretty Young Thing
Androgynous GWM, 33, 6', 155#, blk/
6", smooth, seeks warm, gentle greater
than or equal to a bl' boisterous top for fun.
Likes kissing, playing, JO, being close.
Clean only, HIV+ ☎ 3227.

Expert Cockslucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, best to wor-
ship mas, verbal topman, over 40, wgt.
proportion. Cau or Asian ☎ 3228.

Mature, Masc., & Healthy HIV+
With a fertile mind that could be your
sexual playground needs hot sex and/or
companionship. ☎ 3229.

Love Going Down On It & More
Oversexed w/male HIV-, 57, will take
good care of slim built males, couples, 2-
55, hung lg. or sm. HIV-. Like being
videoed or photo when doing it. ☎ 3230.

Tongue Wanted
GWM, 36, needs hairy butt & nuts licked.
Prefer GWM, 20's-30's, for great mutual
oral sex, attractive, ordinary guy awaits
your call. ☎ 3231.

Are You Fit To Be Tied?
Hot, GWM, 43, 6', 170#, in shape top
ISO Asian guys who like to be tied up,
spanked & forced. HIV- OK. ☎ 3232.

Hot Nasty Hole ISO Dildo Work
Attractive, submissive, often dominant
masochist, seeks nasty, dominant tops. Like
dirty talk, slings, mirrors, possibly video.
Call me & let's meet & get real nasty. En-
thusiasm is most important. ☎ 3233.

You Dom Hung Hdsme & Horn
2 GWM bottoms will service you &
your friends or get plowed anywhere &
as often as you like, doorways, basement,
rooftops. Get kinky. ☎ 3234.

Kick Back!
GWM, 5'10", 160#, br;br, cln shaved,
fun, friendly, luv to suck & balls. SK,
Mas, trim, GWM, GAM, 18-40. Couples
OK. Reg service possible. ☎ 3235.

Bis Dick HIV+ GWM Top Wanted
Healthy HIV+ GWM, bottom, 37, 170#,
5'11", seeks GWM top w/rock hard
dicks. Give it to me. ☎ 3236.

Condom Fucking
Tall, slender, attractive top, 35, brown
hair, tailored beard, blue-green eyes. Nice
dick seeks attractive, in shape, guy to help
me adjust to fucking w/a condom. ☎
3237.

Afternoon Sex Buddy
Intended extended periods of ass-massage
ex: spooning, lying down to screen. Me: Africa,
GWM, 46, 6'5", 165#, hairy body build. You:
attrac, GWM, 18-35, smil, smooth-
body hair & nice butts. ☎ 3238.

Experienced Massage Partner
Wanted by professionally trained masseur,
38, 5'11", attractive, great body, creative
hands. Let's exchange wonderful massage
w/expert hands. You: handsome, 18-45,
well-trained, ready to share sensuous
energy. ☎ 3239.

Want Dirty Talking JO Buddy
Strictly JO, DT, CB, worshiping while
partying late evenings+your place. Masculine
guys desire same. Age, size, race,
unimportant. Desire to worship cock &
talk nasty is important. No shaved body
parts, videos, mirrors, other distractions.
☎ 3240.

Dark Man Wanted
GWM, handsome, 6'4", 185#, HIV+,
healthy, seeking endowed black or Latin
men. I provide expert oral service to those
who know what they want. ☎ 3241.

Hottest 29 YD Latino Looking Hot
Guys, love 3 ways, Redwood City area.
Exchanged massage. Please call me. ☎
3242.

Top Fist Expert HIV+ Healthy
For your pleasure talented fingers & fist,
sling, full beard, hairy chest, 7x6 cut.
You clean, hungry butt, eager to please
long day/long sessions. Bring your Crisco.
☎ 3244.

Granddaddy Seeks Grandson
18-30 who prefers company of an older
early 70's man both in & out of bed for
lots of loving & sexual times. Gay or bi-
curious. ☎ 3245.

Let's Wrestle
Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others
turned by wrestling. Open to all, 30-45,
35 for heavy play, BD, & intense, re-
spectful dominance. If you're more than
in-the-wall than Falcon studios, you're the
one. ☎ 3246.

Butch Muscular Tops*
Wanted by masculine, muscular, 6',
190#, blk, brown hair/eyes, GWM bottom.
I'm HIV+, asymptomatic & looking
for muscular, hairy GWM or GWM tops
for hot times. HIV- is OK. ☎ 3247.

Plain & Simple
My tight butt needs your hard probing.
DICK. Me: GWM, 57, 5'7", 140#,
mustache, goatee, shaved head; You:
5'5", insehpe. ☎ 3248.

Hungry Boy
Seeks a strong mature Daddy or big
brother to train me for his pleasures.
Make me your pussy boy. I'm 36, GWM,
5'8", 140#, mustache/goatee, shaved
head. ☎ 3249.

Bike Messengers Wanted
Thin, pierced, tattooed wanted by hungry,
handsome, healthy, Italian dude for suck-
ing & body worship. No games or obliga-
tions. ☎ 3245.

Give It Up To A Hard Hunk Man
You know that your hot mouth & tight ass
are there to satisfy your strong masculine.
Thinking about his hard body slamming
your butt makes your hungry hole
twitch, you ass wet. Handsome Hawaiian
Hunk. 35. ☎ 3247.

Experienced Cockslucker
GWM, 24, 5'7", 125#, blond/blue eyes.
Looking for Hispanics, Latinos; & black
young men who hung & want there
cocks sucked dry. Daytime only. Leave de-
scription & number. Hurry. ☎ 3248.

Safe Same Consensual: "Daddy?"
Sexy, muscular, tall, slender, hard-bodied
service-oriented, long-legged bottom seeks
similarly minded, in-shape "together" top
for variety of hot explorations. Can we
discuss possibilities? ☎ 3249.

Handballers
Wanted by gung ho WM for sensual butt
play-open the wide w/your hand & punch
my hole-fill me w/your arm. ☎ 3248.

Tight Butt Needs Dick
GWM, 5'10", 160#, br;br, cln shaved,
fun, friendly, luv to suck & balls. SK,
Mas, trim, GWM, GAM, 18-40. Couples
OK. Reg service possible. ☎ 3235.

Handsome Athletic Smooth Asian
Male is interested in receiving lengthy,
strong, full-body, head to toe oil massage
from experienced or licensed masseurs on
a regular basis. ☎ 3240.

Butch Masculine Hot Bottoms
Needed by hot, handsome, GWM, HIV+,
40', 6', 170#, hung big & great at fucking
holes. Beard, hairy, uncut A+. Let
me make us happy! Let's fuck. ☎ 3249.

Top Daddy or Leatherman Needed
To train this pussy boy to be your total sex
slave. I'm a GWM, 37, 5'7", 135#, shaved
head, goatee & mustache. ☎ 3240.

Asian Boy! Asseter Cuckucker
Seeking an attractive Asian or Pacific Is-
lander, under 30, HIV+ who adores being
rimmed & cucked by a WM, 44, 185#,
6'2". Please sit on my face! Attitude A+.
☎ 3241.

Law Student
If you are a Law student at McAllister
School. I'm living next door. I want to
suck your dick. ☎ 20-35. Me: 29. ☎ 3242.

Doghead Oralist Seeks Trainer WM
Trainer U: 20-35. Me: 19, 5'11", 175#,
athletic, healthy HIV+. Expert service for solid ag-
gressive playful topman into long sessions;
clean safe damage-free. I inhale, go totally
down for your pleasure. ☎ 3243.

Stud Butt Hole Licker
Muscular, athletic jock w/rimseat looking
for a stud who gets off having an asshole
worshipped by a handsome, hot tongue. ☎
3244.

Very Simple
Not into relationships just sex. GWM, 36
yr, 6', 150#, hairy & bottom. Looking
for a fun toy. ☎ 3244.

Seeking Pax Fucktoys: Rough Sex
GWM, 38, 150#, defined, seeks oral ser-
vice for 8' or better. Any age/race prefer
uncut, hairy butts & cock sucker. ☎
3245.

Need Someone
To take your orders, sir? SWM, 5'5",
142#, HIV+, would like to massage your
sores spots & lick the others. Punish me if I
don't. ☎ 3247.

White Butt On A Tan Body
Searching for a masculine young guy w/a
lean tight build for massage, photo ses-
sion, or whatever makes you happy. I'm a
tan trim, masculine WM, 41. ☎ 3248.

Great Downtown Head
GWM, 47, bearded, HIV+, total oral ser-
vice for 8' or better. Any age/race prefer
uncut, hairy butts & cock sucker. ☎
3249.

Sex Buddy Or Couple
Orch, anal bottom seeks one or two GWM,
51, great shape 6'11" (170#), playful &
experienced. Age, race, exp. unimportant,
willing to teach. ☎ 3250.

Oral Expert For Hung Males
18-30 who prefers company of an older
early 70's man both in & out of bed for
lots of loving & sexual times. Gay or bi-
curious. ☎ 3251.

Let Go & Give It Up
Handsome, muscular, well-defined top
seeks wiry, buzzed, hairy bottom under
35 for heavy play, BD, & intense, re-
spectful dominance. If you're more than
in-the-wall than Falcon studios, you're the
one. ☎ 3263.

Dominant Male
Seeks part time house slave, age, looks
unimportant. Must be dominant, submissive
& eager to please. For house cleaning &
sexual & sexual servitude on a regular basis.
☎ 3264.

Sex GAM Bottom Seeks GWM
My tight butt needs your hard probing.
DICK. Me: 57, 5'7", 140#, straight & smooth
bottom, seeks GWM (under 35) for hot sex. Military,
blond, blue-eyed, 5'11", 170#, hairy, well
mouth, milk it w/this lushious tight jock
ass. He wants to kiss you, blow, ride
your joystick! ☎ 3265.

Fantasy BD Master
50, in shape: Bondage the main focus:
leather, rope, cuffs, masks. Scenes:
Prison, interrogation, arrest, military, etc.
☎ 3265.

Need Deep Thrust for 9" Cock
Black male new to SF, seeking top regular
deep throat sessions. HIV-, ND/ND, I can
cum & cum w/you. ☎ 3265.

Deep Velvet Throat in Berkeley
Handsome, slender, masculine, blue-
eyed, min. 30's, yuppie will suck off in
shape, white & Latin studs under 40.
Straight or bl? Will eat your girlfriend's
pussy too. ☎ 3265.

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This black cock sucker loves downing hot
loads. Cum let me take the weight out of
your balls. Just sit back & enjoy. While I
suck your hard cock. You must be 21-30 &
have 7". Call me. ☎ 3265.

Visiting Slave
Dominant, muscular, fuck slave, HIV+,
age 30, 35, 40+, 130#, 5'11", 170#, hairy, well
mouth, 5'11", 170#, 180#, 190#, 200#, hairy
ass. ☎ 3266.

Handsome Daddy
Age 42 seeking other handsome, hung,
Daddies, 35-55. Ralph. ☎ 3265.

Let's Rub Boners
Stick your dick inside my shorts. Bounce,
slap, slide, squeeze our stiff doings
toge... Watch me shoot on your swollen
dick hole. Pump your load into my pter. I'm
43, 145#, 5'9", clean-shaven, gung. ☎
3267.

FETISHES
Small Dick?
Easy going, sincere, 45 yo top guy wants
to play w/younger small hung guys 4'
or less. Don't be shy or embarrassed. I'm se-
rious, hope you are too. ☎ 3248.

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or less. Don't be shy or embarrassed. I'm se-
rious, hope you are too. ☎ 3248.

Manhole Wanted

Done it prostate, w/holes on lip. It:
In shape, 18-40. Let my hot tongue work
it good. I'm very handsome, 40, 5'11",
160#. ☎ 3249.

Sir, Your New Slave Is Waiting

For you to teach me more about SM & BD
& about serving you. I'm 37 yo, 5'11",
167#, gym-toned body. You're 45 yo or
younger. Live in SF. ☎ 3250.

Spanking Fun

Giving male, 30, 5'6", smooth, athletic
butt, seeking other young (under 40)
aggressive guys. I'm 25, 5'11", 170#, smooth &
muscular, leather pants. ☎ 3252.

Deep Throat My Fat, Long, Black

Cock fat & hard, then leave. You are
sincere, available, have a mustache, can
ravel, free on short notice. Blow me &
run. ☎ 3253.

Very Simple

Not into relationships just sex. GWM, 36
yr, 6', 150#, hairy & bottom. Looking
for a fun toy. ☎ 3244.

Seeking Good Looking Cigar Smoker

Seeking other cigar smokers who are top
or versatile. I'm 37, 6'4", 180#, board
Enjoy living everyday from Vanilla to Vanilla.
Especially fucking, fishing, WS, rimming,
leather, & more. ☎ 3252.

Goodlooking Asian

Seeking other Asian or Pacific Is-
lander, under 30, HIV+, who adores being
rimmed & cucked by a WM, 44, 185#,
6'2". Please sit on my face! Attitude A+.
☎ 3241.

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Very Simple

Not into relationships just sex. GWM, 36
yr, 6', 150#, hairy & bottom. Looking

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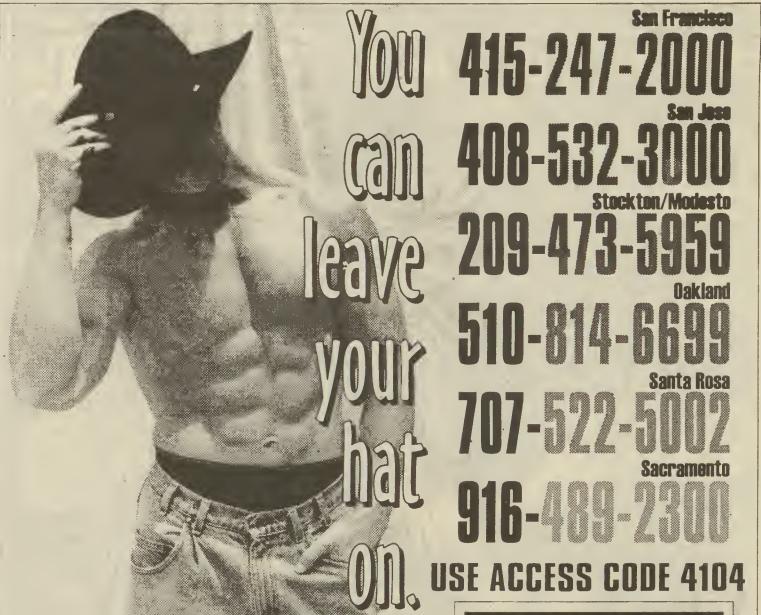
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50 chest
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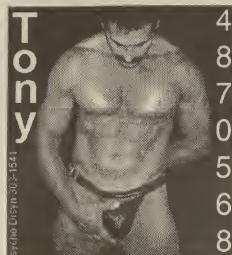
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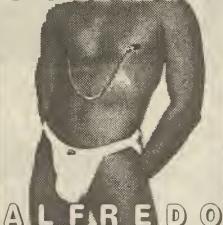
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Mitch • \$120 • Page: 202-1130

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Expert FF, BD, WS, Raunch•Out only

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Buttplay, from condoms to FF.

Ripped, muscular, hairy top has big

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Handsome Friendly Top 626-2669 Alex

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Cute, Hot, 28 yo Top

Smooth•Hard Bod

Hung X-Thick • Jeff 834-8569

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Take your time, enjoy yourself. Let

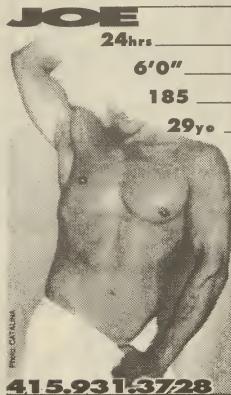
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Cleancut • Sexy Quality
Hung Long & XXX Thick • 24 Hours
OPEN TO ALL FANTASIES
JAMES 415-861-SEXX \$90



JOE
24 hrs
6'0"
185
29yo



415.931.3728

HOT 6ft 175lb
Athletic
Masculine
Well hung 8"
Attractive
page
KURT
201-7189
Mature men/
hotel calls welcome \$100/out

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ARABIAN NIGHTS?

Right here, gorgeous Arab boy, fun,
5'8", 150 lbs, dreamy olive eyes.

PAGE: MAROC 208-1301

Out/SF/Nite only, After 6PM

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HAIRY-HUNK-5'10" 180#

Needs Totally Oral

Service 303-1235

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Experienced masculine Marine image

Fully-equipped Russian River loc.

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Italian Stud, black hair, brn eyes, de-

fined chest & legs, 6ft swimmer's

build, bedroom eyes, beautiful ass,

8" uncult, Outcalls Pref/Hotels

Gino 22, 436-0402 Model looks

Don't you want it now!

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8" Versatile Out Only (415) 263-0424

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UNCUT TOP

Masculine Latin, Clean-Cut, athletic

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Hard 8" • Handsome • Muscular • Defined

Abs • Reliable, Intuitive, 28yo Top•

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Extreme Scenes only Kal 764-6627

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220 lbs very muscular 431-5923

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Submissive mobile bottom ready for

use•Dean 20, 6', 170#, 8" +, boy,

br/bi, smooth•Kind of comfort, SF

based, eager...pgr (510) 539-0777

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Page 247-8959 your # then 35. \$60

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2 CUTE YOUNG TOPS

Both 23, well hung, short hair

1 blond, bl eyes, 5'10", 1 dk brn hair

brn eyes, 6", smooth page 522-8797

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Take your time, enjoy yourself. Let

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DOMINANT
LEATHERMAN, SM.BD,
WS, CBT, FETISH, ALL
FANTASIES. 38yo,
6', 210#, BROWN
HAIR, BLUE EYES,
FLAT TOP, MUSTACHE,
7' UND. FEATURED
IN UPCOMING
POWERPLAY &
BUNKHOUSE MAGS.

HOT TOUGH TOP

Scott 415 790-0902 In/Out

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TONY 709-3266 BPR
\$100

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"hey asshole..."

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207-5231

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BUFF AND SEXY

Muscle bottom from So. America
5'9", 165#, blk/bm, 31" w, 41" chest,
14" arm, 6" w/bi head. (408) 421-7121

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Patrick 346-1061 In/Out, In/Out

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Fresh 22 yo, 5'8", 145, 29w, 39c, Smooth

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Private strip show w/erotic muscles

All bay area & out town travel

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Foot Fetish • Bpr 834-8170

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YOUNG HANKIE

Hairy chest•Sexy eyes• Sensuous Top

36 yo, 160, 6'0" Bryan pgr 605-1383

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Sexy Goodlooking Tom

HOT ASIAN

Pgr: 280-3735, phone 860-7311

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Adam 38, 6'4", 195#, bld/blu, hairy

Handsome, clean-cut, hung, versatile

Top 24 Hours page 207-8089

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Pecs & Nipple Work by muscular guy

w/great touch. 100% Ecstasy•773-9130

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MASCULINE LATINO

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Pg 389-3673

219-7331

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CUTE GERMAN

6'2", 175#, 9" UNCT, 20YRS

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JOE•PGR (415) 220-5664

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22 YO Blonde

18 yo Models

18 yo Models</p

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24 Y.O., 5'8" x 155 lbs.
IN / OUT, \$100 - 9x7
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!
CARLOS, 826-0679, 207-3756 pr.

Anthony



Photo: RAM STUDIOS

6'2
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.

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Serving all bay areas

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Handsome Friendly Clean Cut
Blue Brown 28 6.2 180

Tim 905.5828

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elephant hung!



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Hot guy next door treats you right!
Br. Hair, Br. Eyed
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Perfect Legs and Ass
6'2" 8" Blond, Blk
22 yrd God

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Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A
25 Years Old
From Italy
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muscular, handsome, short bearded Top, expert in physical S&M, bondage, esp. C&B work, sensual, genital torture. Safe and gradual, surrender control to a master of pleasure and pain.
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TALL
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HUNG
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24yo - 6'3" - 235 lbs
Very masculine
muscular and SEXY
\$120/hr DIRK 679-1684

He Knows What You Need.

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Powerful Man Wears his Big Boots
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DAGEN

6ft slim, smooth STUD
Bondage to Butt Play Top
Totally Equipped Playspace
B/D, F/F, T/T, C/B/T, V/A Whip, Spnk.
Safe Sane Scenes Only
Hot, Healthy, Handsome
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THE 9X7 CLUB!!!

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30 yo 6'3", 200, brn/blue, gotee,
versatile, 24 hrs, (415) 921-8607

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Spank & Paddle Expert, Experienced
Kory • 773-9130 Hot Bun Fantasies

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"FIREMAN"

27 yo Masculine Muscular
6'3", 210 lbs Very good looking
You will not be disappointed
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PARTY GUY "9"
Call: 775-4771 • 24 Hours

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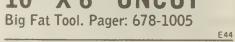
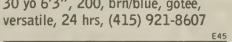
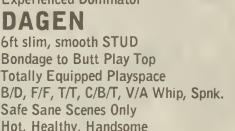
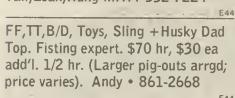
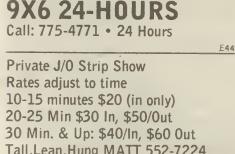
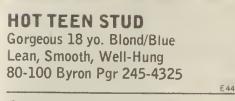
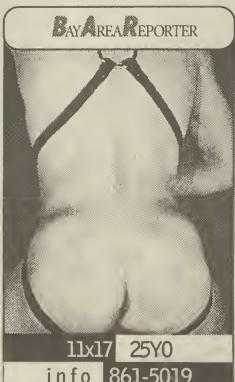
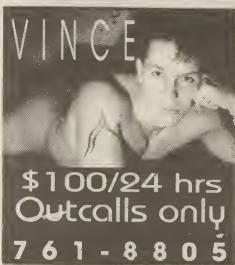
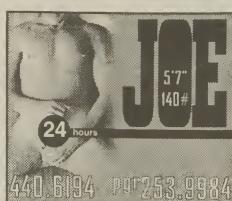
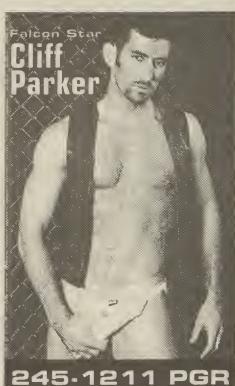
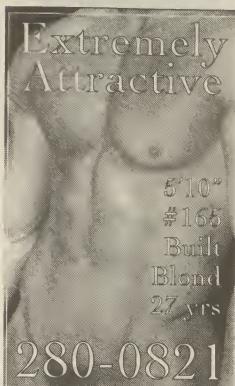
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